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Students voice thoughts on Iraq

by Ajay Khanna
Newspeak Staff

At 7:30pm on Tuesday, January 15, hours before the United Nations' deadline for Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait, about 150 members of the WPI community, comprising about 20 faculty and 130 students, came together in Newell Hall to discuss their thoughts and feelings about the current crisis in the Middle East. Prof. John Zeugner of the Humanities Dept. presided over the discussion, which was sponsored by the International Relations Council.

Professor Zeugner started the discussion by saying that this was the first time since the Cuban missile crisis in October 1962, that he had felt really "queasy" about the situation that the world was in. This was substantiated by the facts and ideas that were brought up in the two hours that followed.

Major differences exist between the current crisis and the last world war. Today, there are established

precedents for most international actions. Politicians have something to base their decisions on. Most nations would have predicted that America would intervene. In addition, most nations are democratic or heading towards democracy. They support long-term peace, though most are still involved in an endless military buildup. They can reach a majority consensus on a crisis such as this.

A significant amount of history was used. Most importantly, the creation of Kuwait by Great Britain to divide Iraq was reshaped, and its national integrity was brought to doubt. However, most people present agreed that it was distinct from Iraq until recently. It is generally accepted that Iraq attacked Kuwait for four reasons. One, Kuwait was furiously pumping oil from a field that is between the two countries, and Iraq wanted the field for itself. Two, Kuwait was cheating by exceeding the OPEC quotas that it was given. Three, Kuwait did not support the "atrocious" price that Iraq wanted for its oil - \$25 per barrel.

Four, Kuwait did not have any real defense against Iraq, and Saddam Hussein is an ambitious man.

Another major point brought up was that, in Prof. Zeugner's words, "Americans are trained to massacre alien cultures. Arabs are joining South Americans, Vietnamese, Mexicans, Africans, and native Americans." Americans are regarded as the best modern-day fighters around. They also have a history of intervening in international conflicts. This can be viewed either positively or negatively, depending on whether you think America acts as a world police force, or as a big bully.

Why is America interested in protecting Kuwait? America receives less than 10% of its oil from Iraq and Kuwait. Why then are 500,000 troops going to fight for an Arab cause that is half-way across the world? Is it because America is a noble country building a new world order to uphold the pillar of democracy, a greedy superpower doing all it can to keep down the price of oil, which it uses

more carelessly than any other country in the world, or a nation plunging into trouble trying its best to restore pride and rebuild confidence in its people and its abilities? Most people present agreed that oil was a major factor in Bush's decision to commit a large number of troops to the Middle East. A little less than half conceded that oil is the only reason that American forces are in Saudi Arabia. Some said that it was a United Nations resolution, although that resolution was passed by the Security Council, which

consists of only 15 members, and came months after America began sending troops. Many said that the U.N. resolution was just a reflection of the U.S. resolution. This view derives some credibility from the fact that almost all the troops in Saudi Arabia are American. Most other countries have sent little more than token support.

The sequence of events that preceded the current situation are vital. The United States did not send a clear

See "Thoughts" page 2

Discussion on war in the Gulf

Tuesday

12:00 - 1:00 PM Kinnicutt Hall

7:30 - 9:00 PM Newell Hall

Sponsored by Student Government

Newspeak

The Student Newspaper of Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Volume 19, Number 2

Tuesday, January 22, 1991



Support group formed for Humanities majors

by Bryant O'Hara

A support group for Humanities majors and double majors was never considered in the past because there were never enough people interested to bother. It is likely that because of the increased number of undergraduates, more people have been admitted who have interests in both the humanities and engineering. To these people, the chance to get the best of both worlds is an irresistible opportunity.

Still others come to WPI and realize that an engineering or science career is not satisfying to them, but like some aspects of the college enough to explore other options - a Humanities degree being one of them.

The most important feature of this group is that it helps interested students tailor their major (or second major) to their specific interests. At this point in time, students are only bound by the minimum distribution requirements. There is a great deal of academic freedom in this type of structure, more so than most majors at WPI. These students also have many courses within the Consortium to choose from. To form a solid curriculum, such a group is needed to give direction to students so that an HU major or double major develops the students skills and interests to the greatest degree.

The foundations for such a group began when the Humanities department decided to advertise by actively recruiting potential majors and suggesting guidelines for them within WPI's minimum distribution requirements. Of course the option of majoring or double-majoring in the Humanities has been open to students since the advent of the Plan, but it is only recently that the HU department has decided to provide a path for students to follow in order to do this.

Prof. Jo Ann Manfra, head of the Humanities department, has designed a publicity brochure and talked with the administration about listing a double major's respective fields on all official documentation and registering both advisers in the student's file. She has also charged a review board consisting of Professors Wesley Mott, Thomas Shannon, and James Hanlan with the task of creating hypothetical frameworks of HU double majors within the context of various engineering fields. This "working manual," as Prof. Manfra put it, is now in the process of final revision and will soon be made available to the entire department and all interested students.

A strategic plan has also been developed with the objectives of recruiting as many as 25 over the next five years and of developing a sense of intellectual community and increas-

ing interaction between interested students and the faculty.

Already these initial steps are bearing fruit. Early in B term, Prof. Manfra and Prof. Bland Addison met with over twenty students to discuss the formation of a group that would promote discussion and attract attention to the existence of these fields on an engineering campus. The range of interests ran from religion and philosophy to history to technical writing. At this meeting, two students volunteered to make a rough draft of a constitution for the group. At the next meeting, time to be announced, the rough draft will be edited, a permanent name created, and the process of making the group an official campus

organization will get underway.

One may ask, "Why would anybody want to get a liberal arts degree at WPI? Why all the interest?" For starters, the administration has come to realize that there are high school students who want both a strong technical degree and a good liberal arts education; letting them in and fostering both aspects is a logical step in accordance with the WPI Plan, whose original purpose was to produce "humanistic engineers." In addition, the Humanities major, although available since the beginning of the Plan, was never advertised to a great extent, and majors were usually personally recruited by professors. By double majoring, a student increases his or

her chances of employment by demonstrating flexibility. Straight HU majors are also required to do a Sufficiency in science or engineering and take courses relevant to that project; they too are giving themselves an edge in employment by having a technical background as well as a true liberal arts education that is as good as one provided by a straight liberal arts college. There is no way to lose by pursuing a liberal arts degree at WPI. We have the professors and the curriculum to do it and do it well.

Any interested students should contact Prof. Addison or Prof. Manfra at the HU office in the lower level of Salisbury labs.

Possible rape at WPI?

by Amy Zuckerman
Worcester Magazine

To date, the facts are sketchy.

The word on the streets is that a young woman was raped and her leg was broken in an incident at or near Worcester Polytechnic Institute. But Bernard Brown, WPI vice president of academic affairs, will say only that WPI president Jon Strauss has convened a board of inquiry to "gather facts on an alleged sexual assault in a

WPI-recognized fraternity."

No charges have been filed, says Brown. He would not identify those allegedly involved in the incident that took place in early December or confirm whether or not they are WPI students.

Strauss convened the inquiry on December 13, but it will be a while before the public learns what really took place at WPI. According to Brown, the board is supposed to complete its investigation by the end

of the month.

As if now the entire incident remains "internal to WPI," and Brown is hoping it stays that way. "It's not a police matter at this time."

With WPI on winter break, no changes of policy have been instituted on campus. "Any changes would remain premature," Brown explains.

reprinted with permission from the Worcester Magazine - January 16, 1991

Gompei's renovations pose an "inconvenience"

by Gary DelGrego
Associate Editor

It took longer than expected, but it's finally happening. On Monday, December 17, construction began on the new snack bar located in Gompei's Place.

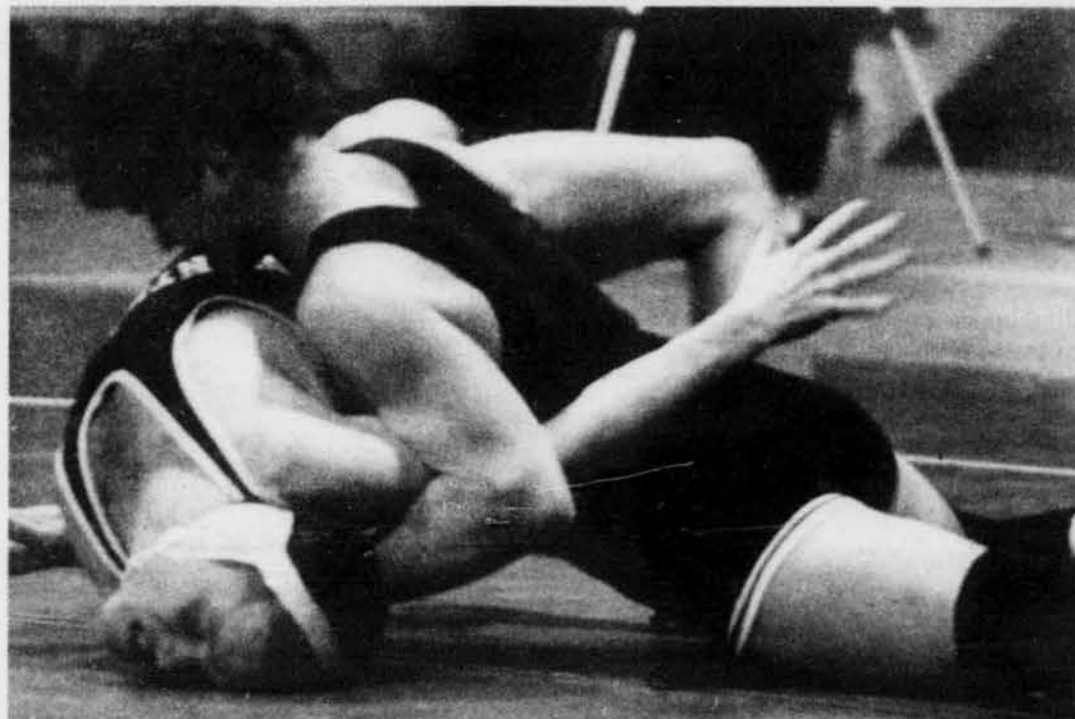
The project is expected to take eight to ten weeks to complete, placing the finishing date somewhere in late February. As a result, all events regularly scheduled for Gompei's Place must be moved to alternate facilities.

According to Chris Eddy, president of SocComm, the closing does present an inconvenience. Many of SocComm's regular events such as comedians and Wednesday night videos will most likely be presented in the Lower Wedge, while some of the

larger events, such as a "revitalized" Pub program, will use Alumni Gym until renovations are complete. All location changes will be announced ahead of time, and will be printed on SocComm's monthly calendar.

Other organizations that normally use Gompei's Place during Term C are encouraged to contact Carol Hebert, the campus events coordinator, as soon as possible to arrange alternate facilities.

Everyone needs to realize that the moving of events from one facility to another will most likely cause inconveniences for groups used to established schedules and locations. It is hoped that the present "inconvenience" will be offset by the renovated Gompei's Place which will feature better lighting, quality staging, and new tables and chairs.



WPI wrestler Tom Trecartin drives his opponent into the mat in a match against Amherst and Wentworth Institute of Technology last Saturday.

WORLD NEWS

Note: This report goes to press at approximately 8 PM, Saturday. Some material may be rather dated by Tuesday morning.

On January 16, at 7:00 PM EST (3:00 AM Iraqi time) the Bush administration announced the commencement of Operation Desert Storm for "the liberation of Kuwait." United States and coalition air forces hit targets throughout Iraq as they ran thousands of bombing sorties.

Nearly two hundred Tomahawk cruise missiles were launched, and thousands of bombs dropped on locations in Iraq and Kuwait. B-52s "carpet bombed" locations along the border of Iraq, and some reports claim that 100,000 or more of the elite "Republican Guard" forces were killed, although these have yet to be verified. Actual losses could be [Ed. note: very] much smaller.

Planes hit targets well inside of Iraq, attacking SS-I "Scud" missiles, runway strips, and other strategic targets. The bombing appears to have been extremely precise. Tomahawk missiles launched from ships in the Persian Gulf were said to have landed within four feet of their targets. Video cameras on American planes showed bombs being dropped down chimneys and through doors. Videos taken from French planes bombing Kuwaiti targets showed similar results. In the fighting thus far, six American airplanes have been shot down—three Navy, two Air Force and one Marine. The British have lost two planes,

and the Italians and Kuwaitis have each lost one plane in the attacks. Seven American crewmen are listed as missing.

Pentagon officials state that coalition forces have shot down 10 Iraqi planes in air to air combat. Iraqi officials have claimed what virtually everyone agrees are highly inflated figures, saying that 101 coalition planes were shot down over Iraq.

Saddam Hussein was not targeted, according to Pentagon officials. He was reported to have stayed in a bunker. His family was reported to have been sent to the West African nation of Mauritania, although the government of Mauritania says that they do not know anything about Hussein's family.

After the bombing of Iraq started, the Iraqis did not attack Israel as expected. When morning came to Tel Aviv, the citizens seemed to breathe a sigh of relief—they assumed that the coalition forces had knocked out all of the Scud missiles.

However, the next night, eight missiles hit Israel, although none of the missiles carried chemical weapons. The missiles did only minor damage, and no one was killed because of a direct result of the attacks. A three year old girl did die because she suffocated while wearing a gas mask. A missile was also launched at Dharan, Saudi Arabia, but it was intercepted by a Phoenix anti-missile missile.

It was feared that the Israel forces would get involved in the conflict and break up the

coalition. However, the Israeli government said it would not attack Iraq but would leave the job for coalition forces.

The next day, coalition forces continued bombing Iraq extensively, hoping to knock out all remaining Scud missile launchers. However, early Saturday morning, eleven Iraqi missiles once again hit Israel. No one was killed in this attack, but some reports claimed that over 100 Israeli apartments were destroyed by fire. Once again it was feared that the Israelis would attack but once again they said they would not engage their military forces.

President Bush has ordered that more Patriot missiles such as the one that was successfully employed in Iraq be sent to Israel. Israel does have some Patriot missiles already, but they have never been used.

If Israel does retaliate, it would probably do so by flying through Jordan or Syria. King Hussein of Jordan said it would fight anyone that entered its airspace, including Israel. Syria has sent mixed signals. In the state run newspapers on Saturday morning, Syria accused Iraq of trying to break up the coalition by attacking Israel. Yet the Minister of Information said that Syria would switch sides if Israel were to attack Iraq in retaliation for its missile attacks.

Despite threats of terrorism from Saddam Hussein, there have been no serious acts of terrorism attempted. In the Philippines, an Iraqi citizen was killed by a bomb he was carrying. Security in the United States has been tightened, both at civilian and military installations. Airports have employed extra security measures and the naval shipping yard in Norfolk, Virginia is also being heavily guarded. The US embassy in Beirut, Lebanon has been evacuated and the personnel have been moved to the island of Cyprus. On Friday, the Iraqi News Agency released a statement saying that the borders for the war had been extended from Tel Aviv to Washington, and that they would achieve total victory against "the invaders of the 20th century." Abul Abbas, the leader of the Achille Lauro hijacking, said, "It is time comrades to carry arms and hit American targets and the interests of its allies worldwide."

The coalition forces have taken some prisoners of war. Twelve Iraqi soldiers were captured from a oil platform in the Persian Gulf, and will eventually be transported to a prisoner of war camp. They are currently being held on

the USS Nicholas.

In the United States, the war is very popular, with major polls showing about an 85% approval rating. However, there have been thousands of people participating in anti-war protests across the country. In some locations, people have been arrested for blocking traffic or other minor offense. In some locations, there have been counter demonstrations, in support of the American policies in the gulf.

News reports from the gulf region are becoming more sparse, as restrictions have been placed upon reporters. Iraq expelled all reporters from the country, and the other countries involved have various restrictions on what reporters can say.

President Bush and many military officials have stressed that the Liberation of Kuwait could take some time. Ground forces have not yet engaged, but many independent military analysts feel that they will have to be in order to win. It is very doubtful that a draft would be instituted anytime soon. However, inactive reserve members were made eligible for callup. Ineligible reservists are those reserve members that do not participate in regular training exercises.

The war in the gulf is also likely to have some other effects as well—especially in the political arena. If the Gulf War is over relatively quickly, Democratic Pollster Paul Maslin said that Bush would be "in very good shape" to win reelection. With high approval ratings for the war, many congressmen that voted against the authorization of force have turned into hawks, and authorize even more military spending. Democratic Speaker of the House Tom Foley has urged that Democrats not restart any debate about the President's policies in the gulf. If the war ends quickly, Senator Gore would be helped in his bid for a 1992 Presidential campaign because he voted for the use of force. However, if the war were to be prolonged, the tables could be turned 180 degrees.

Financial markets also reacted favorably to the news. The Dow Jones average soared 11 points the day after the first strike to close over the 2623 on Thursday. Crude oil prices dropped \$10 a barrel to \$21. The reason for the quick drop was anticipation on the part of investors that the war would be over quickly.

compiled by
George M. Regnery
Newspeak Staff

Thoughts on Iraq

Continued from page 1

message to Iraq about its intentions if Saddam dared to invade Kuwait. Kuwait did not expect the invasion, and, out of fear of incurring Iraq's wrath, refused to allow U.S. troops to be stationed there temporarily. Bush tried to psyche Saddam Hussein into pulling his forces out of Kuwait, but his combination of direct threat of attack by positioning troops, diplomatic measures to reach a compromise with Saddam, worldwide support for his efforts, and economic sanctions have failed. Although the sanctions are estimated to be 80-90% effective, they have had little effect because Iraqis are now subsisting with less than what they had before. They are unhappy, but can survive. Some people were of the view Bush made the mistake of taking actions for which the only logical progression now is a war. Another fact that has been made very clear, and is behind every war in history, is that neither side is willing to compromise. Congress has given George Bush the go-ahead for a war. In a vote, they authorized Bush to do all that is necessary to support the U.N. resolution. About half the people present were of the view that war is the only choice left. However, most people, including those that thought that war against Iraq was inevitable; said that they did not support it. Some people said that most American military personnel support the war. However, history has shown that the vast majority of surviving veterans detest war, and resolve to avoid it at all costs.

The ethical debate on war was quite interesting. Can the atrocious actions committed by Iraq be overlooked? A number of people said that no-one should kill people based on doubts. In a recent poll, about 66% of Americans supported war, but, if 10,000 Americans died, only 15% said they would still support the war. It is likely that 10,000 or more Americans will die if ground forces are used. The environmentalists are of the position that had Americans begun paying the true cost of oil, war would never have been imminent. Having a war now, besides meaning the deaths of a large number of people and a tremendous increase in the

price of oil, will have the effect of wasting much of the oil in the war itself. Perhaps maintaining the status quo, with a few American troops remaining in Saudi Arabia to prevent any further expansion, could be a reasonable move. The price of oil would eventually stabilize at about Iraq's original request. Some people said that it would be better for a country to die in a war than for it to die in hunger.

Another factor to be taken into consideration is what would happen if a war takes place. Will Saddam Hussein attack Israel? Will Israel initiate action or retaliate? Will Arab nations change sides? Iraq has experienced a long desert war with Iran, and can probably survive another. Chemical, biological, and nuclear weapons will probably not be used in the war, except as a last resort. Will America win the war, or will this turn out to be another long drawn-out crisis like Vietnam? Even if the U.S. wins, and Kuwait is freed, it will be utterly destroyed. Two-thirds of the Kuwaitis have been relocated to Iraq by Saddam. Even with the over \$100 billion in assets that the Kuwaiti government has, it will take a number of years for Kuwait to be rebuilt. What will happen when America does eventually pull out of Iraq? Will Syria and other Arab nations take advantage of Iraq's helplessness to expand their boundaries?

At the time of writing this article, America has already sent an initial bombing mission over Iraq. The war has begun. The talks have failed. Initial results from bombing expeditions have been very positive from the American point of view. Iraq has launched an attack on Israel, but Israel has refrained from taking any action. As of today (Friday, January 18) casualties on the U.N. side are reported to be less than 20 lives, whereas estimates for Iraqi losses go all the way up to 20,000 lives. This disparity does not tell the whole story, however, since the Americans have only used air power, in which their superiority over the enemy is absolute. If a ground war develops, both sides will suffer heavy casualties. The future is in the hands of a very few men.

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NEWS

Major Selection Program office sponsors seminar

by The Major Selection Program office

Deciding on a major and, more broadly, a career can be one of the most daunting decisions facing you as an undergraduate. While an interest in science, engineering, or management is assumed among WPI students, the career choices within those fields can be overwhelming.

In an effort to provide you with more information about different majors and related career paths, the Alumni Association in conjunction with the Major Selection Program is sponsoring the 2nd annual "What To Be Or Not To

Be" workshop. This workshop will be helpful if you are undecided about your major, thinking about changing your major, or wondering what you'll do with your major when you graduate.

"What To Be Or Not To Be" will take place on Tuesday, January 29, 1991 from 7:00 to 9:30 PM in Morgan Hall and the Lower Wedge. The program, which will begin with a keynote address by Provost Apelian, will feature informal discussions focusing on career opportunities associated with different majors or areas of concentration. In addition, this year we have expanded the program to include the fields of

law, teaching, and technical sales. Over 25 alumni, currently working in companies such as Digital, GE, Monsanto, and Prime Computer will share their professional experience and answer your questions regarding careers. You will have an opportunity to attend up to three sessions.

Alumni will talk about their job search experience, the positions they've held since graduation, and their current position, including a description of the typical workday. You'll have a chance to ask questions at the end of each session. A reception will be held after the last session to give you a chance to speak one-on-one with alumni.

Last year's program was quite a success.

Students who attended last year said that the program was very helpful and allowed them to gain a lot of valuable information, including pointers on how to make yourself more marketable when job hunting. One student said, "I would definitely encourage others to attend next year!"

So don't miss this exciting opportunity to gather information that will help you make better decisions about your major and career goals. The program is free of charge but we ask that you please register in advance. To register or get more information, contact the Major Selection Program office, 157 West Street, 2nd floor or call 831-5012.

Alden Hall to be renovated

by Ajay Khanna
Newspeak Staff

Grants by a number of organizations have made possible a major renovation of Alden Hall, which will take place this year. Susan Feddeman, a graduate of WPI's Master's program in Civil Engineering, will be playing a major role in the construction process. John Miller, Vice President of Physical Plant, said that the intended renovations include a completely new electrical and lighting system, updated heating, alarm and sprinkler systems, and an elevator. Other planned changes include refurbishing of the offices and classrooms in the building, and the transformation of one room into a presentable recital hall. Classroom space for music lectures will be increased, and there will be a computer laboratory for computer-generated music. Care will be taken during construction to provide better

acoustics for concerts and plays. A few dressing rooms will be built to accommodate actors before they go on stage. All the space behind the stage will be renovated.

The schedule for the planning process follows. A number of planning sessions, in which representatives from the drama and music departments, Lens and Lights, and student government, were present, have resulted in a schematic design which will be complete by the end of January. From then until the end of February, a design development phase will take place, which consists of making decisions on the exact specifications of the construction process. A budget for the construction will undergo a review by the trustee's meeting in February. The final plans and specifications will go to bid by the middle of April. Construction, which is expected to extend beyond the summer, will begin around the end of May, after the graduation ceremony.

Leadership conference held

by Ajay Khanna
Newspeak Staff

On Monday, January 14, the Student Activities Board and the Student Life Office co-sponsored a Leadership Mini-Conference, which 60 WPI students attended. Provost Diran Apelian gave the keynote address "Leadership and the Color of Happiness." The conference also featured various discussion groups. Diran Apelian led the "Leadership in Society" group, which discussed common issues in today's society, including the Middle East crisis. Nancy Hunter Denney led the group that discussed Leadership and Membership Retention, which focused on reasons behind college clubs and special interest groups, and how to recruit and retain members. It turns out that the number one reason people join groups is to meet people, which means that groups which take this into account will, in general, be more successful than others. Christopher Jachimowicz led the group discussing Leadership and the Advisor, in which it was found that the advisor can take different roles, and that he/she is extremely valuable in keep-

ing the club organized between years. A few daring students volunteered to present the proceedings of their respective discussions before the entire group. Most student leaders present found the conference, which may become an annual program, stimulating and exciting.

World hunger report

by Professor Patrick Dunn

In the rush of events in the Middle East, one can forget that the number one problem in the world is still, and will be in the near future, hunger. Two WPI students who recently participated in a College Symposium on Hunger, sponsored by Heifer International, will report on their experience on Wednesday, January 23, at noon, in Atwater Kent 108.

The group will also discuss ways of raising students' awareness of hunger and poverty existing in the United States and abroad. Tentative plans are to establish a new student organization to contribute to efforts to combat these problems.

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Arts and Entertainment

The Battle... Not in Iraq, in Alden

by Joe Parker
News Editor

The Battle of the Bands returns for its annual installment this Saturday, January 26. It will begin at 7:00pm, and is sponsored by SocComm's Special Events Committee.

The Battle this year consists of five bands: Adam's Eve, Death Defeyeing Gravity, Myschief, The Society of Beverages, and Thin Red Line. At least half of the members in each band must be WPI students. Each act will have forty-five minutes to perform their material.

The Evening will begin with Charlie Hall, the comic/emcee. His act stresses clean and clever material, which some reviewers have said to be "cute-risque." He is scheduled to begin at 7:00.

The Society Of Beverages will lead off the music, which is scheduled to begin at about 7:15. The society is made up of four members: Jim Fox, on vocals and guitar, Mehool Patel on bass, Mike Marando on guitar, and Thanh Lam on drums. Their members have seen action in various former WPI bands, including 12 Mile Limit, Slave Girls From Infinity, and Fields Ericson. They will be performing original material.

The Society will be followed at 8:00 by Adam's Eve. This quintet consists of Russell

Beavis on rhythm guitar, Derron Blakely, lead guitar, Dan Eaton on Percussion, Gary Rae on Bass, and Bruce Yurczak as Lead Vocalist. All are members of the Class of '93. The band, who formed fairly recently, plays what they call "melodic metal." Blakely has participated in similar contests in his native Florida, placing both first and third in those competitions.

Scheduled to take the stage at 8:45 is Myschief. Myschief formed in September of 1989, but has since made some personnel changes. Their current lineup is made up of Bryan Gunn on rhythm guitar, James Koker-nak on lead, David Mann on bass and vocals, Al Marandola on vocals and Jason Wright on drums and vocals, the bassist and the drummer have both played professionally. They describe their music as "Top 40, Hard Rock, bordering on pop-metal."

After Myschief comes Death Defeyeing Gravity. Comprised of only two members, Alan Allen on guitar and vocals and John Powers on guitar harmonica and vocals, they, on the surface, bring back memories of Influenza, the duo who took second place in last year's Battle. They describe their music as "Neo-Classical Rock Fusion Folk," and have been playing together since September 1989.

Finishing off the night will be the only returning band from last year's Battle, Thin

Red Line. Thin Red Line has had stage experience both here and abroad, playing for audiences at the Worcester Artists Group and the Hampshire College Tavern. They band members are Peter Jenkins, drums, John MacNeill on vocals, keyboards, and winds, Troy Nielsen on guitar, bass, and vocals, and David Rostcheck on bass and guitar.

Charlie Hall will entertain the audience during the intermissions while the bands set up and tear down their equipment.

The judges for the 1991 Battle of the Bands had not been chosen as of press time. Judging Criteria is composed of the following:

Stage Presence, Talent, Creativity, Professionalism, Energy, and Audience Appeal.

The prizes this year are tempting: a \$200 Gift certificate for the Second place band, and a \$500 Gift Certificate for the winners, which are good towards purchase of equipment at Union Music.


Whereas the stakes are rather high, we can hopefully look forward to a fast-paced, competitive show, highlighting the best each band has to offer. One way or another, the audience will be in for almost four hours of music. May the best band win...

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Arts and Entertainment

Music Review

Sisters of Mercy, Front 242, and AC/DC

by Joe Parker
and Troy Nielsen

Special Guests this week: Corey Jenks,
Ray Bert, and Peter Jenkins

The Sisters of Mercy "Vision Thing"
(Elektra Records)

Joe: Corey and I will take this one, and then I'm off on a weekend pass...

I don't know exactly how to start this review; this album is not in my usual repertoire, but for some reason I liked it. The band seems to be led by Andrew Eldritch, who plays guitar, is the lead singer, and writes at least part of the music in every song.

He has an interesting outlook on life, to say the least. He has some catchy lines, though, but the problem is he overuses them, nearly to death. One such line is "I don't exist when you don't see me/ I don't exist when you're not here," from the song "When You Don't See Me" or "I need all the love I can get/ and I need all the love I can't get, too" from "More". In the latter, though, Eldritch, uses that same line over and over and over and... well, you get the point. This is unfortunate, because musically, he writes some pretty good tunes. The music is

not exotic or overly unusual, just the stuff of your usual hard-rock-bordering-on-metal band. Sometimes, however, his music suffers from the same problem he puts into the lyrics, too much repetition.

There are the bizarre moments on this tape, too, but overall, I think it's not too bad. Not destined for the Rock 'N' Roll Hall of fame, but it's okay to listen to if you don't want to stress your brain under the pressure of heavy duty lyrics or noisy guitar licks. I give it a 72 out of 100.

Corey: The scene was set. It was just another night of the usual homework and curing the illness of boredom when Joe decided to put on the Sisters of Mercy. The opening sounds started emanating from the two speakers in the room, and I expected the usual rock slash heavy metal sounds. The song started out as expected, until the first line of lyrics from "Vision Thing" was sung. I'll leave it to you to attain a copy of the artistic words, but I was taken by surprise. I stood for a moment in shock and then burst out in laughter.

After the initial reaction ended I must admit that I actually liked the Sisters of Mercy. I must agree with Joe, that the song lyrics as well

as some of the musical phrases do get over-used. One of my favorite lines was in the song titled "Ribbons". This was the Animal-like chant of "INCOMING". Now when I say Animal-like chant I do not refer to wild mammals, but to Jim Henson's drummer on the Muppet Show named Animal.

In general the Sisters of Mercy did combine a good sense of musical rhythm with interesting lyrics. It seemed to me as the tape progressed the music got better and better, and I must say the second side was better than the first. Although it is rare that I listen to this style of music, I enjoyed the tape. I give this a 75 out of 100.

Troy: Frankly, I did not have sufficient time to sample the Sisters of Mercy. However, I am familiar with the title track through its college radio airplay. Sisters of Mercy have undergone personnel changes which has, from my sources, resulted in a major stylistic change for the band. I am not readily familiar with the band's earlier recordings. The title track is pretty cool. Lots of brain-beating guitar hooks and evil singing in "Vision Thing".

Front 242 "Tyranny For You" (Epic Records)

Troy: Through Joe's connections with people in high places, we were able to procure this cassette a full two weeks before the release date. January 29, 1991 is the release date for "Tyranny For You" and we had the cassette in our grubby little hands about a week and a half ago.

I'll turn the review over to Pete Jenkins (EE Graduate Student) who is WPI's Resident Minister of Knowledge Concerning Front 242. I have consulted Pete because I do not have any prior Front 242 listening experience.

Pete: I must confess, I don't know all that much more about them than you, Troy. As with a lot of these industrial type bands, some of the members play in other bands beside Front 242. For example, R. 23 also plays in the Revolting Cocks I believe. He is actually they only member who plays a traditional instrument, keyboard. There is one singer but they overdub vocals a lot, and the rest is done by a sequencer.

In comparison to their CD "Front By Front," this tape is very similar in some respects, but it also differs in what I believe to be very significant ways. On "Front By Front," all of the songs use very driving rhythm tracks to convey a lot of power to the listener. This is also very evident on "Tyranny For You" but there are also a couple of songs that make use of less complicated tracks and less driving beats. I felt that some songs contained more of a hard-rock sound (there is even a synthesized guitar sound floating around) and I even heard a couple of hints toward rap. In my opinion, a band must be able to use many techniques to convey their musical ideas to the audience, and Front 242 has expanded their musical "bag-o-tricks" with this release. I give it a thumbs up.

Troy: Front 242 is a pretty evil band, producing music that is full of technology, doom, prophecies, and tidbits of comments on society and the like. At least that's the way I

perceived it.

Songs on this tape bleed into one another. Interestingly enough, this created a solid sense of sound coherency on each side of the cassette. Also, samples of speeches and other vocal bits, made me stare at my stereo speakers and say "What the Hell is going on here?" Nice effect.

"Sacrifice" opens up the recording with its well-constructed song structures intertwining through the hypnotic rhythmic tracks. One gets the sense that the band members really spent some time formulating unconventional song structures. All of the songs really emphasize the use of varied rhythms and this creates an almost danceable environment. But by no means is this group playing music that will be heard at Clubland or similar venues.

"Trigger 2 (Anatomy of a Shot)" is a bizarre collection of sampled tracks and repeating riffs that just seem to knock on my skull and say "This is messed but you like it, don't you?" I really like this group and their latest effort. It's evil and pleasant at the same time. The English language is fairly limited in describing music of this type. It's about human experience that is not normal and about the coming of the Apocalypse. If you like "industrial music" or just want to hear something that is truly different, check this album out when it hits the stands on January 29. I must give it a 90 out of 100.

AC/DC "The Razor's Edge" (Atlantic Records)

Ray: Well, I'm flying solo on this one. I was asked to give a hand on this one because I listen to AC/DC, although truthfully I wasn't really psyched on this album. I gave it a listen, though, and was beginning to have my mind changed by the four strong tracks opening side one. That hope ebbed, though, by the end of the side and side two confirmed my suspicions: the album is just so-so.

The good tracks are good, though. "Thunderstruck" is a classic rock anthem about life on the road. A great intro, semi-tongue in cheek growling background vocals and a tempo building to locomotive pace by the end add up to a great tune. Brian Johnson's vocal chords are obviously shot, but you get used to the extra raspiness. "Moneytalks", the second single, is dangerously catchy and a decent song but sounds a little too commercial for AC/DC. "The Razor's Edge" is the other standout on the album. Ominous and relentless, it vaguely recalls Sabbath or maybe Priest. Whatever, it's easily the heaviest thing they've done in quite a while, but it works well.

After that, there are three or four decent songs - nothing worth mentioning. The rest of the album falls into three categories: generic ("Shot of Love"), stupid ("Mistress for Christmas"), or both ("Let's Make It"). Sample lyric from the latter: "Let's make it, don't waste it, come on and taste it." Enough said.

Overall, it seems as if AC/DC doesn't know if they want to be members of some dying rock genre or just another one of the masses who happen to still have some AC/DCisms. I rate the album a 55, slightly above average on the strength of the few really good songs.

Floating Boats in Alumni

by Ray Bert
Associate Editor

Last Friday, Alumni Gymnasium was the setting for an appearance by Floating Boats, a Boston-based club and college band.

Essentially a dance-rock band, Floating Boats keep things fresh by adding various touches to many of their songs. Though there were a few songs that were nearly indistinguishable from each other, most of the selections were varied and irresistibly catchy. There were several covers, including REM's "It's the End of the World As We Know It" and a funky up version of the Stones' "Honky Tonk Women." Of the originals, some of the best were "Hangin' Around Waiting For the Depression", "Doctor Man" and "Will You?". The latter, which has been tabbed to appear on an upcoming demo, sounded a lot more conventional than some of their other material, but was a strong tune nonetheless.

The show was more of an overall entity, though, rather than a collection of unrelated songs. The band operated chiefly in third and fourth gear, taking it slightly higher or lower for a song or two or parts of them. The result was very danceable and energetic, with enough variety to avoid becoming monotonous. Much of this was due to the band's use of bits of reggae and ska (so I'm told), which provides some different rhythms and incorporated everything from maracas to a trumpet to (seriously!) a large conch.

All of these elements pointed to a great live show. Unfortunately, one crucial element was

missing: a good, large audience. Though there were as many as fifty people there (a decent turnout for a Pub show), it seemed like a lot less in Alumni, which feels like a concert hall compared to the friendly confines of Gompel's. Worse, more than half of the crowd chose to sit on the bleachers against the side wall or as far back as they could possibly go, making the turnout seem even more sparse.

Technically, the Boats and the show in general were good. The volume was cranked way up, but the mix prevented any one player or the vocals from being drowned out. The four piece band seemed tight and the backing vocals in particular were strong. They seemed disappointed for most of the show that they could only get a few people up dancing. This despite two guys who broke the ice by being the first out on the floor. They stayed there for the entire show, and for the majority of the time appeared to be trying mightily to detach one or all of their limbs from their torsos. But hey, they also had more fun than anyone for their one dollar admission charge.

The Boats did finally manage to get about fifteen people up "shaking it" for the last five or six songs of the seventy-five minute set, and succeeded in ending the evening on a positive note despite the silly leave-the-stage-but-don't-turn-on-the-lights-and-wait-for-the-encore tactic which should have been axed since they almost came back to an empty gym. That works in stadiums where everyone has paid twenty five bucks to be there, but not here. Still, maybe it works at schools with a decent social scene. Sorry, guys, you deserved better.



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Arts and Entertainment

A play with a point - or was that a Line?

by Eric Currin
Newspeak Staff

Ever see a play that makes you take a step back and look at yourself? Ever not like what you saw? *Line* is a play that on the surface looks and seems very simplistic. Five people are in a *Line* vying with their limited talents to be first.

The play starts off with Fleming (Brian Weissman) at the front of the line; he had spent the night on the line just to be first. Steven (Joe Provo) comes along in the morning and steals Fleming's place when he isn't looking. He robs Fleming of his rightful place at the front. Thus the first of many changes in first place occurred with many more to come. All five characters visit the front of the line at some point in the play, and all are ousted.

Then Molly (Liz Burrill), Dolan (Jim White), and Arnall (Erik Felton) each arrives successively and queued up. Molly, Arnall's wife uses her womanly wiles to "screw" her way to the front of the line. She ends up "screwing her way into first, and being 'screwed' out of it." Arnall, her husband, watches as each of the other characters "has" his wife. But he doesn't really mind because his wife is "pure, pure bad." As his philosophy goes "Surprise brings pain, pain is bad, no surprise, no bad, all good..."

Perhaps the best part of the play for me was the end where Steven eats the line. He says, pleads, that he has to die first, he has to be first. Everyone else seems only to want the line back, not very concerned that Steven is trying to die. The play ends with each character with his and her own line, all first on it and happy with being first on his line.

The performers in the play were superb. Brian Fleming does a great job playing the jock that isn't too smart. Joe Provo put out a breath-taking performance as the 30 year old "boy" who didn't really fit anywhere in the line except for first. He plays the music artist type that reminds you of the sixties and hippies. Liz did a great job in playing the seductress-extraordinaire/spoiled brat who cannot be satisfied. Jim a.k.a. Wombat was terrific as the "youth irate" who seemed like a nice guy, but as soon as your guard was down, struck with great speed and little mercy. Erik Felton had his first major role in a play at WPI. He did an awesome job, playing the whining, wheedling nerd to a T. I look forward to seeing him in future performances in major roles.

The play was overall very comical and the characters equally weird. But what really hit me was the seriousness of the theme of the play. The theme of the play seemed, to me at least, to be what people will do to get ahead in the world. It was about the fight to be first in line, for only the first matters. Some people will use their brawn to get ahead, some sex, some cheating, some their intelligence, some their guile, all to be "first." Nothing matters except for being in "first place." This goes as far as Steven needing to be the first to death. The play forces you to think about how important being at the top really is when you have to double cross and play dirty to get there. It also illustrates the point that the first is toppled often for others wanting the position. It shows how being first isn't so great and that maybe being last isn't so bad after all. And better yet, it shows that you can refuse even to form a line at all, that you make your own line, and that you can always be first in it.

Did Cro-magnon and Neanderthal co-exist?

by Isaac Asimov
Los Angeles Times Syndicate

Two chief varieties of Homo Sapiens have existed on Earth, and in December 1989, evidence was unearthed to indicate that the two might have coexisted for a while in Europe.

The first variety is commonly known as "Neanderthal man" because the first bony remnants of this variety were located in the valley ("Thal") of the Neander River in western Germany. The bones were clearly human but the skull, in particular, showed interesting differences from "modern man." It had pronounced bony ridges above the eyes, which modern human beings don't have. It also had a backward-sloping forehead, a receding chin and unusually prominent teeth.

There was considerable argument at first as to whether it was really a primitive kind of human being, or was an ordinary human being that suffered from some bone disease. However, as time went on, other examples of Neanderthal man were uncovered, and they couldn't all have had the same bone disease.

What's more, they weren't very primitive. They were, on the whole, shorter than modern man, but were stockier and apparently stronger. Their brains were as large as ours, even a bit larger, though they were differently proportioned, with more in the back and less in the front. (Naturally, we assume that the front part of the brain which gives us our "high brow" is more important so that we are superior to the "low brow" Neanderthals, but there is no real evidence of that.)

The Neanderthals may have had spiritual yearnings. At least, there is evidence that they buried their dead and, with them, flowers. Most people seem to think that Neanderthal man and modern man are both varieties of Homo sapiens. The former is Homo sapiens neanderthalensis; the latter is Homo sapiens sapiens.

In 1868, early examples of modern man were found in a cave named Cro-Magnon, which is about 75 miles east of Bordeaux in France. Remains such as those are at least 30,000 years old.

When Cro-Magnon men are pictured, with flesh on the bones, they are always shown as clean shaven (not at all likely) and with a noble and somewhat sad expression on their faces. They are white in coloring, of course.

Neanderthal man, on the other hand, is always shown with his lips hanging loosely, a dirty stubble all over his face and a vacant look in his eyes.

To those of you who have seen the motion picture "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" starring Fredric March, you will notice that Dr. Jekyll is the living embodiment of Cro-Magnon man, and that Mr. Hyde is the absolute image of Neanderthal man.

Neanderthal man antedated modern man. He certainly roamed Europe 100,000 years ago, and particularly primitive specimens may have existed even earlier. Where he originated, we can't tell, but there is a strong suspicion that all human beings and their ancestors originated in Africa.

We know of Neanderthals not only by their bones, but by the tools they left behind. Widespread over Europe is the "Mousterian culture" consisting of comparatively simple stone tools. It is so-called because the first examples were found in the sands of Moustier in France.

There are also tools to be found of the "Aurignacian culture," so called because the first relics of this kind were found in the town of Aurignac in France. The Aurignacian culture is associated with modern man, and the tools are much more skillfully and artfully made than are those of the Mousterian culture. It seems certain that one difference between Neanderthal man and modern man is that the latter was far more advanced technologically.

In 1878, a Spanish archaeologist, Marcellino de Sautuola, discovered paintings on the ceiling of a cave. (Actually, his 12 year old daughter saw them first.) They were paintings of bison, deer and other animals and were perhaps 20,000 years old. It was plain that these ancient artists were as skillful as any that have existed since. About the same time, modern man invented the bow and arrow, the first device in which energy could be slowly stored and then released all at once. It meant that dangerous animals could be attacked from a safe distance.

Some people had thought the Neanderthals died out before modern man (originating in Africa) migrated to Asia and swept through Europe from east to west. However, James L. Bischoff of the U.S. Geological Survey in Menlo Park, Calif., and his Spanish colleagues have found Aurignacian materials that seem to be 40,000 years old.

If so, modern man collided with Neanderthal man, and the question is: What happened? The easy answer is that modern man's superior technology wiped out Neanderthal man, but there is also the possibility of interbreeding. With the evidence available today, we just don't know.

Music Trivia

by Troy Nielsen
Associate Editor

Questions:

1. What famous Beatles song was originally called "Scrambled Eggs"?
2. In what country did acts such as Bill Haley and the Comets, Chuck Berry, and Bo Diddley experience a rock and roll revival in the early 1960s (hint: it's not the USA)?
3. Name the drummer and the bassist that rounded out the group called the Jimi Hendrix Experience.
4. Name the drummer and the bassist from the later Hendrix band called Band of Gypsys.
5. Which member of Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young tried out for the made-for-TV band The Monkees?
6. Which Beatles song from 1967 supposedly contained the message "I buried Paul" as the song fades out.
7. Name the band that originally recorded "Ballroom Blitz" and "Love is Like Oxygen."
8. In what year did Ron Wood join the Rolling Stones?
9. Which came first for the Doors, the song "The End" or "Riders on the Storm"?
10. Who booed Abbie Hoffman off the Woodstock stage?

Answers:

1. Yesterday
2. England
3. John "Mitch" Mitchell (drums) and Noel Redding (bass)
4. Buddy Miles (drums) and Billy Cox (bass)
5. Stephen Stills
6. "Strawberry Fields"
7. Sweet
8. 1975 after Mick Taylor left
9. "The End"
10. Peter Townsend

Eating In Let's Do Lunch

by Kaja Cadwell,
Kelly McQueeney,
and Josh Howard

Another peanut butter and jelly sandwich?! There are plenty of other excellent alternatives. All it takes is a little imagination! There are three parts to any sandwich: the bread, the meat/cheese/other insides, and the accessories (vegetables, condiments or fruit). A variation of these ingredients can make new and exciting sandwiches every day. Use this only as a starting list and add your own favorites!

BREADS:

- sweet bread (our favorite, found by the deli section)
- rye bread
- white bread
- pumpkin bread
- whole wheat bread
- oatmeal bread
- brown bread
- rolls: onion, bulgie, seeded, twisted,
- french
- pita bread
- muffins
- bagels
- croissants

INSIDES:

- turkey
- ham
- bologna
- pastrami
- hot dogs
- chicken
- shaved steak
- bacon
- cottage cheese
- Swiss cheese
- cheddar cheese

Monterey Jack
American cheese

peanut butter
tuna fish

ACCESSORIES:

lettuce
tomato (actually a fruit...)
onion
pickles
olives
alfalfa sprouts (p.s. they're fun to grow!)

pepper
celery
avocado
apples
bananas
garlic
scallions
chives
paprika
chili con carne (the spice)

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mustard
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Europe : A Review Culture in Zurich

by Shawn Zimmerman
Newspeak Staff

I'll admit it. In America I was not exactly what one would call a cultured person. I thought culture was something you had to scrub out of the back of the fridge periodically or risk breeding a Godzilla foe. Someone explained to me that "Culture" meant "refinement," to which I replied "You mean like chewing before you swallow, and not eating off of other people's plates before they're finished?" He didn't seem too pleased with that answer, but the Women's Jell-O Wrestling Championship was about to come on so we dropped it.

Jell-O, by the way, really is amazing stuff. The number of things you can do with it are near infinite. You can fill someone's pool with it. You can hang pictures with it. It's a skin conditioner, jewelry, a fuel source (when doused with kerosene), and a fishing lure all in one. If prepared properly it can also be used as a replacement racquetball. And you can even eat it if you feel silly.

But, anyway, I was a bit intimidated coming here to Europe. Everybody knows that Europeans are all tan, rich, chic people who play Baccarat and drink martinis ("Stirred not shaken"). Did this mean I'd have to drink with my pinky sticking out and wear cummerbunds? These possibilities left me scared enough to formulate a plan of action. I'd have to start "culturizing" myself. But slowly, so as not to risk system shock and a possible stroke. First, I resolved to quit watching "Land of the Lost," which wasn't too hard since European TV Stations claim to have never even heard of it, the heathens. Feeling giddy with the success of this first crucial step, I decided to push myself to the limit and go for the gusto: Theater. Not just any theater, but theater in an Operahouse. Luckily the first thing to roll along was "Hair," which is a nice 1960's musical about sex, drugs, and hippies, and more importantly, it was in English.

But, it was still in an operahouse, so I'd have to consider my attire quite carefully. Didn't they shoot you if you tried to sneak into an operahouse without a cravat? But was it morally correct to attend a be-in type gathering without tie dyes? In the end I opted for the middle route, courtesy of Shabby Student Fashions. Which seemed appropriate - everyone over 25 was dressed to kill, and everyone under 20 was dressed to be teagassed. So I slipped quite nicely into the middle.

The whole point of "Hair" is that there is this bunch of hippies and they spend the whole play singing, dancing, doing drugs, ridiculing authority figures, dodging the draft, and having sex with each other, various members of the audience, and a few cute stage props. In the sixties, this play was probably quite controversial, but today it's a bit blasé and the ideology seems a bit naïve. (And, despite all the sex and nudity, which is good, not one person was cut in half by a merciless barrage of evil Communist machine gun fire, which is bad.) Although the play itself is a bit dated, the music is still simply amazing. And that alone makes it worthwhile to see it.

Before I launch into the exciting description of my further adventures in Operaworld, I want to take a small intermission and talk about umbrellas.

I hate umbrellas. I want to make that very clear. I have always hated umbrellas. Not just a mild "Oh! I find that a bit distasteful!" kind of hate, but a seething, burning desire to have all umbrellas gathered together until they undergo gravitational collapse and form a black hole. This antisocial urge dates back to elementary school. When you're a kid rainy days are supposed to mean carefree hours of jumping in puddles and stomping on worms, right? Why then, do mothers introduce stark terror into the scene by forcing kids to carry a nasty plastic little Muppets umbrella, and a hideous vinyl poncho that looked like it was used to flag down airplanes, and wear duck shoes (which, thank God, do not look anything like ducks)? I, for one, was always terrified that a passing 747 would try to land on me. That, however, would have been infinitely preferable to "Looking Dorky." I tried to explain to my mother that dressing me up like that was like dousing me in nicotine and then locking me in a room with a Smokers Anonymous meeting, but she never listened to me. So, rather than eliminating her (which would be inconvenient come birthdays and Christmases), or blowing up the weatherman, I transferred all those antisocial urges to the umbrella. Why am I bringing this up? Partly to stretch the article a bit, but mostly because it's snowing.

Snow, too, was once a source of innocent

pleasures, but not longer. Zurichers (Zurichites? Zurichineans?), for some unknown reasons (unnatural concern for acid rain, or vitamin deficiencies, perhaps) feel it is necessary to use umbrellas in the snow. They are quite adamant about this, and suffer grievous emotional trauma when it is politely suggested that they are just a little bit barking mad and should try to save the umbrella for when they actually need it. This would all be OK, however, if they just used their umbrellas, but they don't, they wield them. It's no coincidence that Zurich has the highest incidence of blind people I've ever seen. I'll tell you that much.

But, I hear you squirming in your seats, dying to hear the next installment in the Operaworld Saga. So before any more of you expire from the suspense, I'll continue. My next step on the road to Respectable Citizenhood was to actually see an Opera in the Operahouse. Not only that, but one in German! "Hey!" I said to myself, "Not only have I seen Amadeus (3 times!), but I also know a few German words, like Sauerkraut, Bratwurst, Einstein, Sieg, and Heil - so how hard can it be? But, of course, the big question once again was "What to wear?" This was a real opera, which meant walking sticks, top hats, and silly white gloves. So I went all out and chose "Shabby Student with an Oxford Shirt." Nobody gunned me down in the foyer, so I guess it was acceptable.

I chose the particular opera that I did ("The Magic Flute," by Mozart) mostly because it was by Mozart, but also because someone told me that it was based on the Mickey Mouse Cartoon "The Magician's Apprentice." He was wrong - it had nothing to do with the Mickster, and Pluto didn't show up once. Despite that, it was still good. It was your basic "Hero dies, gets brought back to life by some witches who introduce him to the comic relief tinsmith character and then give a magic flute (which plays itself, illegal in many states) to him and magic bells (which transform nasty bandits into giggling goofoids) to the tinsmith,

Hero falls in love with girl and has to pass some tests designed by her father the King of the Night before he can marry her and in the end he does marry her and the tinsmith marries someone else and the witches turn out to be transvestite guards in the Night King's retinue and everybody is happy: kind of plot. That Mozie really had his finger on the pulse of the people, didn't he? "Say, Mo. Watcha writing?" "Dunno, but it's gotta have transvestites."

But, of course, the plotline in a Mozart opera is pretty secondary. It's the music that's important. I could go on for hours about how good this stuff was, how delicate, and subtle, and friggen perfect it is. But that wouldn't fit in with the general form of this article, so suffice it to say that I think Mozart's music is some of the most beautiful the world has seen, or is likely to see (barring a teamup of Luciano Pavarotti and the Sex Pistols).

Now, everybody has their own favorite orchestral instrument and violent arguments frequently arise over it (several members of the Board of Trustees who were butt naked and had obscene graffiti written in magic marker in embarrassing positions had to be rescued from a dumpster as a result of an unusually spirited discussion of the Flutophone-Triangle Controversy). But I'm afraid that I'll have to put in a sympathy vote for the guy on the kettledrums. The poor schlub has to stand there the whole opera, and he only gets to do anything maybe three or four times. I mean, yeah sure, they let him play with the xylophones occasionally, but that just doesn't make up for the fact that basically his job is to stand there looking dopey. If they had let him sit down and catch up on his reading or knitting or something, then he would have looked a lot less useless, and I, for one, could have enjoyed the whole experience a lot more.

OK, so now I had mastered Culture in a language I claimed to understand. But the true tests of one's Culturization are using "one's" instead of "your" and also seeing Operas in

totally unintelligible languages like Italian. Once again, however, I picked a Mozart, cause you can't go wrong with that guy. It was called "Le Climenza di Tito" so I naturally thought it would be about a Yugoslavian dictator. I was only slightly wrong, it was about the Roman Emperor Titus. That kind of thing really bugs me. I mean, if the Italians get Roman Emperors confused with Communist Dictators, why should we be expected to know useless things like where France is or how to balance check-books?

But, anyway, I always thought that Roman Emperors wore Nike running shoes, played violins in burning buildings, and buggered little kids, but this Titus guy seemed pretty cool. I mean he even let some guy marry his fiancée. Of course, a Roman Emperor can't be brideless, so he goes hunting around and chooses this chick that just got finished convincing some mope to kill him. Talk about a bad judge of character. So she says "You Betcha!" in Italian and starts looking for the mope to tell him not to kill Titus, at least not until after the wedding. She doesn't find him, he makes the attempt, fails, Titus puts him on trial, finds him guilty, then lets him go free cause he's such a darn nice Emperor, and everybody's happy. La la la.

Pretty banal if you ask me (we don't even get to see the assassination attempt, we have to infer it from what Ralf, my fellow Opera groupie, reads in the program). However, Mozart did write the musical soundtrack so it wasn't a total waste. At least in this one they gave the kettledrummer something to do, even if it was just the harpsichord.

So, now my Culturization is almost complete. All I have to do is attend a Wagner Opera. Wagner operas last several days and many people have to be hospitalized for exhaustion afterwards, so they must be pretty darn good. I'm a little nervous about this last step, though, so I might just go take in a Sylvester Stallone flick instead.

The Wilderness Writer Go Climb A Mountain

by Athena Demetry
Newspeak Staff

Mountains should be climbed with as little effort as possible and without desire. The reality of your own nature should determine the speed. If you become restless, speed up. If you become winded, slow down. You climb the mountain in an equilibrium between restlessness and exhaustion. Then, when you're no longer thinking ahead, each footstep isn't just a means to an end but a unique event in itself...It's the sides of the mountains which sustain life, not the top.

- Robert Pirsig

My first memory of hiking is of licking table salt from my mother's palm in a tent in Acadia National Park. After racing gung-ho up Mount Cadillac on stubby toddler's legs, I descended, more subdued, on my father's shoulders, my legs racked with pains. Fortunately, this early encounter with a mountain did not tarnish my enthusiasm, and I am always eager for any sort of walk, hike, or climb.

The anticipation in preparing for a hike is keenly felt. Ours being a family which yelled "Gorp Stop!" every half-hour or so while hiking, my sister and I would prepare an elaborate concoction of granola, peanuts, raisins, dried fruit, sunflower seeds, dates, walnuts, and both peanut and plain M&Ms and carefully weigh each bag (no kidding!) so that no one would be robbed of his or her fair share of munchies. Nonetheless, conflict still ensued when Chrys, being the type to eat all the M&Ms first, would fix a baleful eye on me, the type who saves the M&Ms to eat last, sometimes resorting to begs and bribes to get me to part with the treasured chocolate. This gorp was tucked into an easily-reached, outside pocket of my backpack, on which hours have been spent in careful organization so that all the necessary clothing - hat, mittens, shorts, tee shirt, turtleneck, flannel shirt, sweater - can be fit in while keeping the pack balanced and not too heavy. Of course, entropy dictates that the pack will attain a much more disorderly state as the hike progresses, but it's nice to start out well organized.

Finally, it comes time for the ritual which truly defines the hiker - pulling on thin cotton socks, then thick rag-wool socks, then the boots, crossing the laces, pulling them tight around the hooks, cross, tighten, hook, tie, double tie. And then you're on your feet with the pack heavy on your shoulders, looking up at the mountain, or summit, or ridge, or ravine,

or waterfall which you are to reach, knowing that along the way you will find the personal well-being purchased by striving - by lifting and setting down your legs, over and over, through the muskeg, up the slopes, gaining the summit - man using himself. [There is a] wondrous mingling of weariness and triumph and sudden harmony with the exquisite airs, the burgeoning life of the bird and plant world of the tops (Margaret Murie).

Hiking in the mountains, one is surrounded by the total range of natural wonders. There is no comparable experience which engages the senses so wholly. Your eye is caught by the neat mound of an alpine wildflower nestled among some rocks, while your ear catches the cry of a redtail hawk riding the wind in that blue expanse of sky, while some undefined sense in the pit of your stomach registers the array of peaks that seem to stretch endlessly beyond. When you remember to breathe deeply and smell (I often need to remind myself to smell), there is captured the fresh, damp, evergreen forest smell; or the slightly musty, sunshine smell of hardwoods; or the mossy, clear, and clean smell of a waterway; or the thin-air, metallic smell of rocks above tree line. There is an exquisite intermingling of the minute and the grand. The smallest detail of a leaf, a fern, a flower, a bird, or a lichen is not dwarfed but enhanced by the expanse of the landscape - sheer slabs of vertical granite, a craggy ravine, remnants of snow on a shady slope in late June, the heavy green growth of trees defining the contours of the mountain.

I especially love hiking in mountains near an ocean, pausing in the hike to look down at the blue of the water studded with the darker shadows of forested islands, and the sea shimmering silver with the glint of the sun or glowing deeply blue in the moonlight or grading between all the colors of midnight blue, navy, periwinkle, lavender, green, aqua, and turquoise, and always the hard land, green, steadfast, and stable next to the liquid sea.

I know nothing of painting, but I felt for a moment the urge a landscape painter must experience - to brush great strokes of brown and fawn and purple-gray and silver upon canvas. Gazing at such a scene, through half-closed eyes, from a mountaintop strikes through to your inmost heart. The place, the scene, the breeze, the bird song, the fragrance of myriad brave burgeoning mosses and flowers - all blend into one clear entity, one jewel.

-Margaret Murie

The soaring heights of the mountains sel-

dom fail to engender a sense of the spiritual and the divine. The ancient gods of Greece presided high on Mount Olympus, looking down at the clouds and the world of mortal men far below them. One cannot help but feel a sense of this immortality in the mountaintop world, a sense of being closer to whatever god or religion you profess, a sense of being isolated from ordinary men. At the least, you are brought closer to yourself through the inward turn of your thoughts and reactions, and you find peace, calm, and clarity of mind.

I have hiked alone, with close friends, my entire family, a sister, and a boyfriend, and I can't say which is best. Perhaps it's not a matter of one being better than the others, but of what's right for you at that time of your life, on that particular trail. Hiking alone, your senses of observation are sharpened - there is only you and the trail and your reactions to what you are experiencing. There is total quiet and serenity and whatever thoughts the land evokes. It can be enormously relaxing. But sometimes you see such fascinating things that you want to share your sense of wonder with someone close to you; it is not enough to observe and walk on. As well, the mountains seem to bring people closer to each other. You are not under scrutiny - your relationship with this person need not be the focus, and usual roles are often abandoned. It is often a relief not to have your attention centered solely on each other. Instead, you both are a second party to the personality of the mountain, and once you give yourselves over to the spirit of the land, words come more easily, silences are comfortable, affections flow, and the best qualities of a person are shown and are seen.

Similar sentiments are shared by another winner of "The Wilderness Writer Contest" (who will receive the wall calendar, "Mountains") in this poem:

*No matter where our paths diverge
No matter where our lives take us
Let us meet in the mountains*

*To meld as one in the rejoice of nature
To behold the beauty that transcends all
To marvel in the greatness*

*Reveling in the earth-power of nature
coursing through our bodies and souls
and to stand with infinite ecstasy
truly as friends
- Bob Mason
Class of '94*

EDITORIAL

What do WPI students need to know?

Do we need to know the time and place of important meetings concerning the school's budget and financial aid? Do we need to know everything that the campus police report each week? Most importantly, do we need to know that someone has allegedly been raped on WPI's campus?

Controversy over the lack of communication between WPI students and the administration has existed for a long time. Apparently this time President Strauss and Vice President Brown have decided to take students' personal safety in their own hands.

COMMENTARY

Aggression will not be rewarded

To the Editor:

If armed men invaded a home in this country, killed those in their way, stole what they wanted and then announced the house was theirs — no one would hesitate about what must be done.

And that is why we cannot hesitate about what must be done halfway around the world: in Kuwait.

There is much in the modern world that is subject to doubts or questions — washed in shades of gray. But not the brutal aggression of Saddam Hussein against a peaceful, sovereign nation and its people. It's black and white. The facts are clear. The choice unambiguous.

Right vs. Wrong

The terror Saddam Hussein has imposed upon Kuwait violates every principle of human decency. Listen to what Amnesty International has documented. "Widespread abuses of human rights have been perpetrated by Iraqi forces ... arbitrary arrest and detention without trial of thousands ... widespread torture ... imposition of the death penalty and the extrajudicial execution of hundreds of unarmed civilians, including children."

Including children. There's no horror that could make this a more obvious conflict of good vs. evil. The man who used chemical warfare on

his own people — once again including children — now oversees public hangings of dissenters. And daily his troops commit atrocities against Kuwait citizens.

This brutality has reverberated throughout the entire world. If we do not follow the dictates of our inner moral compass and stand up for human life, then his lawlessness will threaten the peace and democracy of the emerging New World Order we now see: this long dreamed-of vision we've all worked toward for so long.

A year after the joyous dawn of freedom's light in Eastern Europe, a dark evil had descended in another part of the world. But we have the chance — and we have the obligation — to stop ruthless aggression.

I have been in war. I have known the terror of combat. And I can tell you this with all my heart: I don't want there to be war ever again. I am determined to do absolutely everything possible in the search for a peaceful resolution to this crisis — but only if the peace is genuine, if it rests on principle, not appeasement.

But while we search for that answer, in the Gulf young men and women are putting their own lives on hold in order to stand for peace in our world and for the essential value of human life itself. Many are younger

than may own children. Your age, most of them. Doing tough duty for something they believe in.

Let me tell you about one of the soldiers over there, S.F.C. Terry Hatfield, a young man from Georgia. He sent me a Christmas card. And this is what he wrote.

"Mr. President, I just wanted you to know my soldiers and I are ready to do whatever mission you decide. Freedom as we know and enjoy has been taken away from another country and must be restored. Although we are separated from family, friends, loved ones, we will do what must be done... We stand ready and waiting. God Bless you and the U.S.A."

Terry understands the moral obligation that has compelled our extraordinary multi-national coalition to make this stand in the Gulf. To look this international terrorist straight in the eye and say: **no concessions.** To proclaim for now and for the future: **no compromises.** To bear witness by our presence to the fact that aggression will not be rewarded.

Terry waits thousands of miles from the White House, yet we share the same thoughts. We desperately want peace. But we know that to reward aggression would be to end the promise of our New World Order. To reward aggression would be to de-

stroy the United Nation's promise as international peacekeeper. To reward aggression would be to condone the acts of those who would desecrate the promise of human life itself.

And we will do none of this. There are times in life when we confront values worth fighting for. This is one such time.

Each day that passes means another day for Iraq's forces to dig deeper into their stolen land. Another day Saddam Hussein can work toward building his nuclear arsenal and perfecting his chemical and biological weapons capability. Another day of atrocities for Amnesty International to document. Another day of international outlaws, instead of international law.

I ask you to think about the economic devastation that Saddam Hussein would continue to wreak on the world's emerging democracies if

he were in control of one-fifth of the world's oil reserves. And to reflect on the terrible threat that a Saddam Hussein armed with weapons of mass destruction already poses to human life and to the future of all nations.

Together, as an America united against these horrors, we can, with our coalition partners, assure that this aggression is stopped and the principles on which this nation and the rest of the civilized world are founded are preserved.

And so let us remember and support Terry Hatfield, all our fine servicemen and women, as they stand ready on the frontier of freedom, willing to do their duty and do it well. They deserve our complete and enthusiastic support — and lasting gratitude.

President George Bush
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Observations from the Asylum

Desert Storm

by Alton Reich
Newspeak Staff

First of all I would like to apologize for missing last week's paper. My word processor and I had a disagreement as to who is boss. I usually write my column using Microsoft Works, and Newspeak uses Microsoft Word. You'd think that a software company would include routines in their programs to allow them to use each other's files, right? No such luck. Works includes a routine to convert to Word, but sometimes, like last week, it doesn't work. So this week I am using Wordperfect (because it is in front of me) and I'm saving this as a text file.

The war in the gulf is on, and so far it is going far better than I expected. The allied air forces achieved air superiority in a much shorter amount of time than I had imagined they would, and with less resistance. It seems that the Iraqi air force was caught unawares, and on the ground. There are at this moment reports that the Air Force shot down 6 Iraqi fighters, and the Navy shot down 2. What is truly amazing, is that American high tech equipment actually works. I'm sure there was a great deal of fear in the defense community that expensive, modern military hardware would fail in battle. From the footage that has been shown on television the past two days, it is apparent that American high tech equipment has been functioning as well as it should.

The big news last night was the attack on Tel Aviv and Haifa in Israel. Much as I love Beth, I still haven't been able to get across the significance of any attack on Israel. Miranda and I stayed up until almost midnight playing games with her teddy bears

until it was clear that a minimal amount of damage had been done and there was no loss of life. What surprises me is that the Israelis have shown so much restraint, and agreed not to retaliate for the moment. The latest word, though, is that Israel will strike back if there is another attack. I suspect that Israel will use either her air force, or the Jericho missile. The Jericho is an indigenously designed and built missile that comes in two versions, one with a 750 mile range and the other with an 1100 mile range. I suspect that either version can carry a nuclear warhead, and I believe that Israel will use nuclear munitions if Iraq uses anything but conventional warheads. I believe that this evening, Friday, will be crucial in determining if Israel enters the conflict.

Other problems have arisen, mainly they concern the continued existence of Iraqi Scud missiles, and mobile launchers. The reason, I suspect, that conventional warheads were used against Israel is that chemical warheads tend to be heavier. Fixed site launchers are able to loft a heavier payload than a mobile launcher, and I suspect that most fixed sites have been destroyed. At this time, a good portion of the mobile launchers have been destroyed as well. Another question concerns Iraqi stores of chemical and biological weapons (aka Skippy the Super Virus, and the poor man's nuclear bomb). Allied planes destroyed production facilities, and suspected stockpile locations, but the question of munitions in the field still exists.

The real question is: what next? I believe that bombing will continue through the weekend, and that sometime early next week one of the two battleships in the area (Wisconsin and

Missouri) will park itself just north of Kuwait and start shelling. The other BB will find itself off the coast of Kuwait shelling inland positions. I suspect that the Marine division still in the Gulf will land in northern Kuwait, while other Marines and the Desert Rats will move north from Saudi Arabia into Kuwait. In effect Allied forces will try to force a northern front and a southern front in the ground war, as well as attempting to cut Iraqi supply lines to Kuwait. Only time will tell.

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The Student Newspaper of Worcester Polytechnic Institute
WPI Box 2700, Worcester, Massachusetts 01609
Phone (508) 831-5464

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Photography Editor

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Associate Photo Editor

Chris L'Hommiedieu

Photography Staff

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VIEWPOINT

What do you think of the Gulf War?



Stephen McGrath '92

We gave peace a chance -- now it's time to free the Kuwaitis. The troops over there are sacrificing themselves for something they believe in, and I have the highest respect for that.



Kim Johnson '91

In general, I don't believe in war but the people of Kuwait need our help now. Saddam Hussein did not acknowledge our attempts at a peaceful solution so force was the only answer. I only hope that not too many lives are lost in the process.



Ned Ames '92

If collective security is going to work we had to act. I just wonder how we, and the world will react the next time that a strong country conquers a smaller one, this time say without any effect on world oil supplies?



Eric Bell '92

The President has done an excellent job of conducting thoughtful foreign policy since the beginning of this crisis. I think the use of force is an appropriate tactic in evicting Hussein from Kuwait.

Sounding Off From Stoddard

Be All You Can Be

by Matt Meyer
Newspeak Staff

"Be all you can be" (or maybe just a little bit less). That was Saddam (no my middle initial really isn't "E") Hussein's sales pitch to thousands of young Iraqi men early last year. "Join for the life experience, the rigorous training (which of course will prepare you for an executive position at any Fortune 500 company), and the opportunity to see the world (including the sandy beaches of Kuwait and Saudi Arabia). After seeing these glorious images of the military thousands upon thousands of teary-eyed and inspired men signed up to "be the best they could be" (or maybe just a little bit less).

Unfortunately for Saddam (yes, we are on a first name basis, we talk all the time), after he bolstered up his army with excited, young men, they realized that if they wanted to "be all they could be" (or maybe just a little bit less) the Iraqi army wasn't the place to be, so they went

AWOL. There were actually some unsubstantiated reports that a few helicopters and a battalion of tanks had defected and surrendered.

Saddam did all right getting men to sign up, but I guess they didn't have the mettle, the mettle to be marines.

The marines, by the way, pretend that they are choosy about who joins but that's all B.S. I know because they called me, of all people, last winter. They had a pretty good pitch and it went like this. It was about noon one day during Christmas break when I got the call.

"Hello, is Matthew there?" rang the deep voice of the recruiter who already sounded like my mother, not because of the voice, but because she is about the only one who calls me "Matthew."

"Speaking," I said, keeping it brief because I didn't know who it was.

"Hello this is Sergeant 'Whatever' of the United States Marine Corps. I just wanted to

ask you..." he paused to take a breath and add a little bravado to his voice "if you have done anything challenging since graduation?"

"Yes, I go to one of the most competitive Engineering Schools in America" I replied as matter-of-factly as I could.

"Oh," he quipped. I had taken all the wind out of his sails and, God, it was funny. "Well, good luck in you studies and remember, the U.S. Armed Forces are always there if you're interested."

"Thank-you," I said.

"Thank-you, goodbye," he replied and hung up.

I thought that situation was probably the most fun I'd ever had with a recruiter, but you probably can't appreciate it unless you've been there. The army recruiter was another trip, only they had a better strategy. I was studying for midterms (this was back in H.S.) and my brain had been reduced to the equivalent of Marshmallow Fluff at the time he called. All I could manage to say was a muttered "yeah, whatever" and before I knew it I had been slam dunked into an appointment. The appointment turned out to be a nauseating synopsis of army recruiting commercials and never did they even get me to entertain the thought of joining.

To date, though, the most intriguing bit of recruiting I've witnessed is that of the WPI Athletic Department sinking its claws into some football players. Just the other day the coach came into duka with two prospective students and their mothers and treated them to lunch. They all got their entrees, visited the salad bar and were ready to take a seat in the

nearly empty dining area when the coach suggested they go to the back room. Lo and behold, when they arrived there just happened to be, well, lets just say about 8 fraternity pledge class members. They were all sitting there quietly, eating, and occasionally rubbing the sides of their closely shaved heads. Although it is common for pledges to eat together, this was no coincidence especially considering how out of character they were at least compared to their predecessors. I have to give them some credit. So the two prospective students talked and ate with the pledges while their mothers, for some reason, had remained in the main cafeteria where they ate and talked. After a few minutes the coach joined the mothers and left the two football players with the pledges.

I'm not saying that anything is wrong with the recruiting aspect of this. It's all perfectly fine and legal. I just find it amusing that this fraternity has already started rushing its next pledge class and you can be assured that their rush will be in full swing by the second and third week of August. But hey, this is bigtime college athletics we're talking about.

News flash! Iraq sucks!! Wait that's old news. The real news is that there are rumors flying that the administration is going to make some moves directed at fraternities that they don't particularly appreciate. I don't know exactly what it is but I want to find out. If you've heard anything, drop me a line at Box 1589. Hell, even if you haven't heard anything you can drop me a line.

Looking Out From Bancroft Tower

Which War Is It?

by Jonathan Drummey
Newspeak Staff

Probably the only people in the world not to know there's a war going on in the Middle East are the people of that native tribe in the Philippines that was only found in the 1970's. Yet how many people know that there's another war out there, in Lithuania. A war whose counterparts have formed world opinion. In 1968, Soviet tanks rolled into Czechoslovakia to crush an attempt at democracy. In 1989, the Chinese rolled into Tiananmen Square. Now, in 1991, Soviet tanks are at it again. Last week, the Red Army took over the television station in Vilnius, Lithuania by rolling tanks over barricades and the people manning them. Both television and regular camera crews were there, filming what was going on. The news made the front page of the New York Times, but it didn't get more than a few minutes on national TV.

There are several hundred thousand American troops in Saudi Arabia, Turkey and now Israel. As I write this, 9 have been pronounced MIA. That is, some of them may still be alive. In our inner cities, the death rate among young black males is higher than that of Vietnam.

Washington, D.C. averages over one murder per day, mostly among the young of all ethnic groups. We hear more about soldiers' water supplies nowadays than the conditions in ghettos across the United States.

Rebellions in Ethiopia, Nicaragua, Chad, Liberia. Ethnic violence in South Africa, Azerbaijan, Beirut. More we haven't even heard of. Why? We're focused on the problem of the week or the month. A spectacular occurrence might result in work for close to a year, such as starvation in Ethiopia a few years ago. A couple of weeks ago, however, it was reported that there is a threat of starvation in that area of Africa even worse than that in 1985. Will there be another Live Aid? More likely USO tours to Saudi Arabia.

Is it possible for America to think about more than one concept at a time? In one way or another, what happens on page A12 of the Telegram & Gazette or twenty-one minutes into the evening news is just as important as the headlines...You might want to remind our leaders of this. Thanks to Wombat, here are a few numbers to help out. President George Bush, White House: 1-202-456-7639, FAX 1-202-456-6208. US Congress: 1-800-852-3446, ask for specific Committee, Member of the House or Senator.

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COMMENTARY

Standing on a Soapbox

The War, oops, sorry, Police Action

by Frodo

I bet that all of you are just waiting for me to write a bit about the situation in the Persian Gulf. Well, I have been philosophically wrestling with the problem since it started but it took a seemingly unrelated event to confirm my suspicions. Here is how it goes. First, do we have a right to invade Kuwait and/or Iraq? Of course we do! Iraq has obviously violated almost every possible standard of civilization. To retaliate against an invader like Hussein is of course morally acceptable. Secondly, do we have an obligation to restore Kuwait? No. Kuwait was a monarchy. Who cares if a monarchy is replaced by a moron? Not me. Is there any country in the Middle East who does not practice some form of totalitarian collectivism? No. Israel comes in last when it comes to being inane, but Israel consistently violates individual rights just like all the other wackos over there. It is bad enough that the US robs its taxpayers to fund the Israeli economy and that we have protected it since its inception, but on moral grounds Israel is nothing to be proud of. Iraq itself is a bastion of irrationalism, but the US government gave it money and military support in its war against Iran. It is not surprising that Hussein is the President of the Iraqi Socialist Party. Saudi Arabia is just as bad. What do you think of a country that won't let its women drive, show themselves in public in most cases and tolerates no alcohol, pork or anything contrary to the state religion? Sounds like a fundamentalist Christian paradise, but it's not, it's one of the countries we have allied ourselves with, alongside the Syrians: great, just great. None of the Middle Eastern countries makes Amnesty International's "WE BE OK" list when it comes to human rights.

What the hell is the US ready to fight for? Certainly not for individual rights! It is an insult to every American principle of freedom that we should send troops to be stationed in a country that claims its barbaric laws apply to the US soldiers. Georgie boy, if he had any

concept of freedom, should have refused to send troops until their fundamental individual rights would be respected by the Saudis. You can understand the Saudis living like Neanderthals, their culture reinforces that kind of thinking, but to intentionally submit free men and women to that junk is suicide. Don't give me any of that rubbish about respecting their society and how I should not judge other peoples cultures. Bull. There are objective standards of right and wrong. Individual freedom of movement, property, expression and religion are not some pragmatic system that we happened to adopt. The principles of freedom and individual rights are NOT morally comparable to collectivist states who violate rights of individuals consistently qua collectivist state. In short, there is no state in the Middle East worth helping in any way. If there was an individual rights, capitalist based front in the area it would deserve freely given support, which brings me to my next argument.

The US military is being supported with stolen property, otherwise known as taxes. This by itself is enough to negate the moral sanction of a presently otherwise voluntary force. I have written before on taxes, so I won't go at it again, suffice to say that whatever is being done with tax money is immoral whatever it accomplishes. This brings us to the next part of voluntary support, the service. Enlistment right now is voluntary, but every young man (sorry girls they are going to let the boys have all the fun) is potentially subject to one of the great barbaric practices of our government, The Draft. The draft is an aberration of a free society. The collectivist concept that the state owns the individual again rears its ugly head. All individual rights are being abrogated when an individual is forced to serve, potentially with his life. The draft represents "involuntary servitude," which is unconstitutional. You cannot get around that. The argument that the state should expect service in payment for protection is fallacious. How can a state protect rights by violating them? If by some

impossibility the situation is resolved without a draft it should be taken as an opportunity to examine this principle of a totalitarian state.

Is it in America's self interest to fight in the Persian Gulf? First off there is very little that qualifies as being in "America's" self-interest. If the sovereignty of the US was riding on the Persian gulf it would be in our self-interest to defend ourselves. I see nothing that qualifies here. Arguments about securing "our-oil" are just as collectivist as the fact that almost all Middle Eastern countries stole, sorry "nationalized", the oil from American & British petroleum companies. Collectively "we" do not own any oil. Consumers do not buy their oil from a government run (just regulated) company. The concept of a government securing a consumer good for the consumption of its population would please Marx to no end. I am an advocate of laissez-faire capitalism, which means the government has nothing to do with the economy. Economic arguments are also false. There is plenty of oil in the United States. It is just that (a) the government controls it or (b) it is in an environmentally sensitive area. If you wish to read arguments concerning the government interference in oil and its results I highly recommend George Reisman's book *The government against the economy*. As far as the environment is concerned I have several problems. First "public property" is a contradiction. Government holdings should be sold to private individuals. Secondly private individuals have a right qua property rights, to use their property in any manner they see fit. If they wish to dig for oil, build condos, raise cattle, cut for timber or keep as is for their pleasure, so be it. The only "environmental" legislation needed is vigorous enforcement of property rights. I.E. If someone dumps anything on my property or pollutes my water or air I can sue their ass without them claiming protection under any government "standard." America can support its own fuel needs if the government would get its fat hands out of the economy.

Should US forces be in the Middle East now? No. If they should be any place it is in Lithuania. This is the incident that clinched it for me. The government of the United States has adopted a foreign policy that sends almost half a million troops around the world to protect a group of ass backward totalitarian states from one of their own kind when it will whimper when the bloodiest modern regime, the Soviet Union, rolls troops into an independent state that was working toward an enlightened society. What the hell are we doing!!!! It is obvious that our government has no concept of right and wrong, no concept of individual rights, no concept of freedom. Gorbachev is an utter bastard, but wait... He won the Nobel peace prize. That makes sense, Nobel invented dynamite. Remember our government is stealing money from us to give it to the Russian government. Gee, why don't we just slit our own wrists. Bush continues to praise Gorbachev for his support of the coalition. Gorbachev understands what the coalition stands for. Nothing. No principles, no goals, no ideals, no morals, and no consistency, but plenty of compromise, collectivism, death, bloodshed, coercion and destruction.

In summary our government is allying itself with cutthroats and enemies of individual freedom in an attempt to curb a socialist moron who we helped maintain power. There is no economic reason for us to be there, or anywhere. Our government is prepared to institute the draft, a violation of individual rights, to fund their stupidity. A popularly elected dictator is running amuck over several potentially free states in Europe and we are doing nothing. It could be argued that the US should have gone in the instant Hussein took US hostages. Now that question is moot. Evil is impotent if free men and women (thank you Loretta) identify it as such and refuse to give it their sanction. Identify for yourself the evils in this situation and do not sanction them. If you personally want to free Kuwait then do something about it, but do not legislate me into complying for I will not, non servitum.

THE JACKALOPE

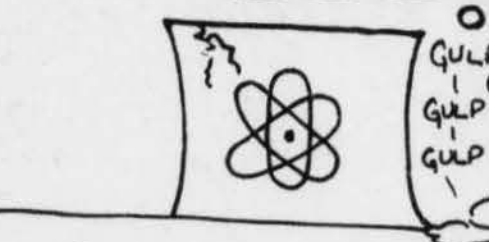
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STEVE BULLIED

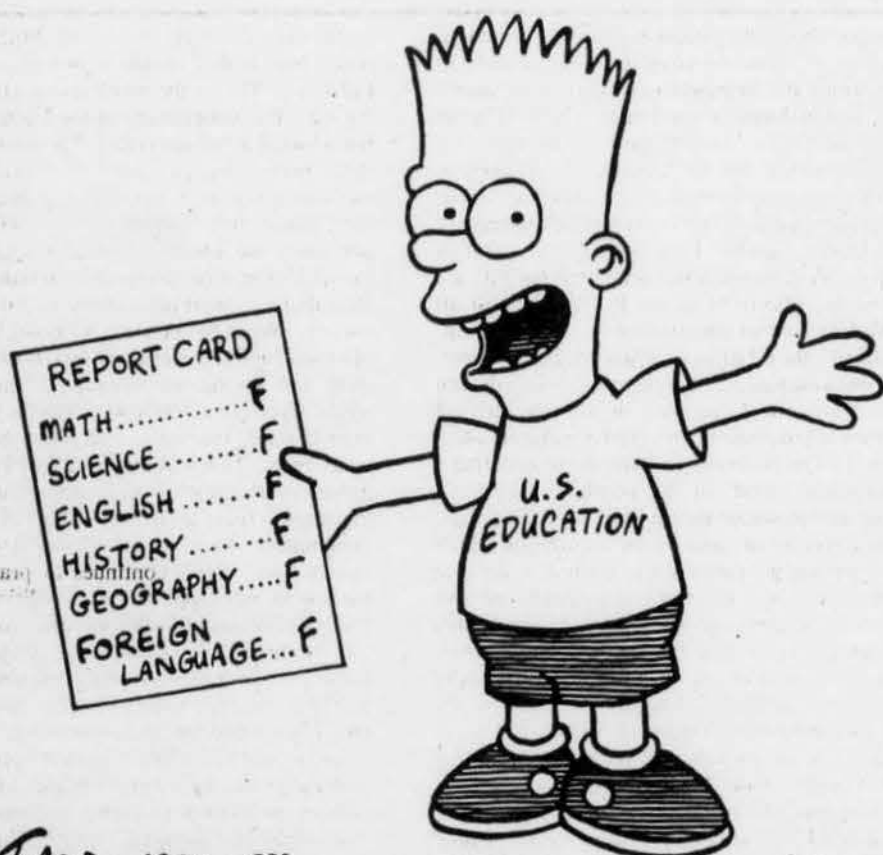
AND I EVEN GET LAUGHED OUT OF THE WEDGE!



...AT LEAST I KNOW MY PLACE IN REALITY.



"EAT MY SHORTCOMINGS, MAN!"



P. Tarr 1990 CPS
APOLOGIES TO MATT GROENING

Students studying abroad could become terrorist targets

(CPS) — The biggest success in American higher education this year — the boom in foreign study programs — may be about to become its biggest nightmare.

Some of the 60,000-70,000 Americans studying abroad this year could become targets of terrorists in a Persian Gulf war, or at least find it hard to get home in event of war.

As the Jan. 15 United Nations deadline for Iraq to withdraw its troops from Kuwait passed, students and parents flooded campus study abroad offices with questions about their safety.

The concerns, however, have not translated into trip cancellations, foreign study directors maintain.

"Obviously, we have had questions from parents and students," said Gary Johnston, head of the study abroad program at the University of Arizona. "But as far as I know it hasn't affected enrollment."

"We are seeing a lot of concern on the part of students and parents," admitted Jeff Bliss, spokesman for Pepperdine University in California. "But, we're not seeing a drop in enrollment. In fact, all our programs are filled to capacity."

Pepperdine students and professors, along with those of six other U.S. universities with programs this year in Florence, Italy, recently received nearly identical letters threatening them with reprisal if the United States went to war with Iraq.

Students and faculty from Georgetown, Syracuse, California State and Florida State universities and the University of Michigan also received the threats.

Italian authorities investigating the group.

Bush asks collegians to get behind the war effort

Bush Asks Collegians To Get Behind The War Effort (CPS) — Apparently hoping to defuse a gathering anti-war movement on the nation's campuses, President Bush sent an unusual letter to some of the country's 14 million collegians Jan. 12, asking them to support his stand against Saddam Hussein.

Bush also promised to try to resolve the crisis peacefully.

"The president felt it was important to communicate directly with them," Bush press secretary Marlin Fitzwater said of the letter to students, adding that many students have friends in the Gulf region.

Untold numbers of the soldiers now in the region, of course, were themselves students just a few weeks ago.

In his two-page letter sent to about 460 college publications, Bush explained his policy rationale.

"If armed men invaded a home in this country, killed those in their way, stole what

which calls itself the "Secret Popular Revolutionary Movement," advised the students to keep a low profile, even though they're pretty sure it was a hoax.

"At this point, they don't know if it was serious or not," said State Department spokeswoman Nyda Novodvorsky. "They're inclined to think it's a hoax. Of course, we haven't invaded Iraq, either," she noted four days before the United Nations deadline.

In April 1986, following the U.S. bombing of Libya, numerous colleges, including Stephens, St. John's, Bates, Yale and Union College, canceled all or part of their regular summer abroad programs.

Business and leisure travelers, if not students, sharply curtailed trips to the Middle East and Europe during the first two weeks of January. Many of those who did go switched from U.S. airlines, travel observers said.

Advance bookings for European travel, for instance, have dropped 25 percent to 50 percent in recent weeks, reported Roger Ballou, of American Express's Travel Related Services Group. Officials there cite security concerns as well as the economic slowdown and higher fares for the drop.

Most foreign study directors, although they're encouraging students to use common sense and maintain a low profile, will heed advice by the State Department, which hasn't urged any extra cautions be taken in Europe.

"It's business as usual," said Pepperdine's Bliss. During orientation sessions, students studying abroad are advised "not to stand out as Americans," but that's more as a courtesy to the host country than a security precaution.

they wanted and then announced the house was now theirs — no one would hesitate about what must be done," he wrote.

"And that is why we cannot hesitate about what must be done halfway around the world in Kuwait," Bush said. "The facts are clear. The choice unambiguous. Right vs. wrong."

"We thought it was pretty much a joke," said Hideki Tomeoka, associate editor of the University of Washington's paper, the Daily. The editors received the letter by fax machine Jan. 8 and ran it the next day as a guest opinion with the headline "Words Of Wonder From Mr. Bush". An accompanying editorial cartoon of the President called it "bullshit."

Other editors just returning from winter break, like those at the University of Notre Dame and Oberlin College, said they hadn't yet finalized plans on how to run the letter. "I was surprised at first," said Kelley Tuthill, news editor for Notre Dame's The Observer. "But he does have to be accountable to us."

"It was condescending at some points," Tuthill continued, referring to Bush's explanation on "right vs. wrong. "Students know what's going on."

"If there's one place on the homefront Bush has to worry about, it's college campuses," added Eric Pfanner, editor of the Daily Nebraskan, the paper at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

"I guess we're not on Bush's most-important list," said Kay Hilton, editor of the Sidelines, the student paper at Middle Tennessee State University, which didn't get a letter. Hilton described campus reaction to the crisis as "pretty mixed."

In the letter, Bush also recalled his days as a teenage combat pilot in World War II.

"I have been in war," Bush said. "I know the terror of combat."

"And I tell you this with all my heart: I don't want there to be war ever again. I am determined to do absolutely everything possible in the search for a peaceful resolution to this crisis."

Bush joined the Navy in 1941. He was only 18, and he had just graduated from high school. Within a year, he became one of the service's youngest combat pilots.

The president also saluted the 370,000-some American troops now in the Gulf as "young men and women who are putting their lives on hold in order to stand for peace."

Bush quoted a Christmas card he recently received from Army Sgt. Terry Hatfield, a "young soldier" from Fort Stewart, Ga.

"Mr. President, I just wanted you to know my soldiers and I are ready to do whatever mission you decide. Freedom as we know and enjoy it has been taken away from another country and must be restored."

"Although we are separated from family and friends, loved ones, we will do what must be done. ... We stand ready and waiting. God bless you and the U.S.A."

Entrepreneurship at WPI

by Toby Wyman

As students are completing their MQP's and IQP's we would like to bring their attention to The Grant Entrepreneurial Scholarship. The scholarship is awarded to an MQP, IQP, or independent project/idea with the greatest entrepreneurial potential traits. The projects will be judged on the innovation of a new product or service as well as marketability and feasibility of implementation. A cash prize of \$3000 will be awarded for a team or \$2000 for an individual. The winner(s) will be named the Grant Entrepreneurial Scholar(s) of the year. Department heads have been notified and can be contacted with regard to the scholarship.

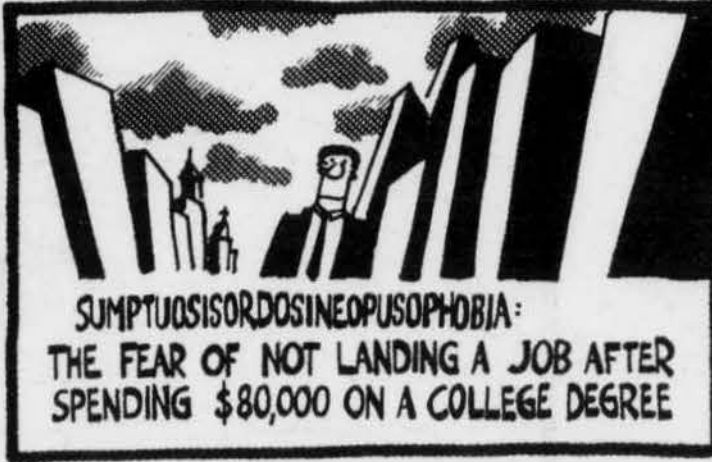
Another entrepreneurial endeavor currently taking place at WPI is the formation of an Entrepreneur's Club. Two facets of the Club are now being assembled. The first is a series of seminars throughout the year which feature keynote speakers. Speakers will address topics such as new business startup, patent laws, and other items affecting aspiring engineers.

These events could range from guest lecturers to panel discussions. The club will be working in association with the recently established WPI Venture Forum, headed by Professor William Gasko of the Project Department. Those interested in becoming involved in this student organization will also be able to work with the WPI Venture Forum and participate in some of the events the group sponsors. By doing so, students will be able to formulate networks of current entrepreneurs which could prove valuable upon graduation.

The other facet that the Entrepreneur's Club is pursuing is the publication of an entrepreneurial newsletter. The publication would cover many of the same topics discussed at the events as well as technology based entrepreneurship relevant to the WPI community. Both The Grant Entrepreneurial Scholarship and the entrepreneurs Club are part of an MQP topic of Ken Duffett, Toby Wyman, and Mike Ryan. If you have any interest in either of these items or ideas to further entrepreneurial ideals at WPI, please contact Box 729 or call 795-7577

MODERN PHOBIAS

BY
TERRILL
CPS





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CLUB CORNER

Alpha Phi Omega

O.K. First things first. This is my first Club Corner, so nobody better pick on me!! Now then, on with the news.

Welcome back. I hope everyone had a good break. This is the Alpha Phi Omega Club Corner. Of course, if you are reading this, you already know that. For those of you who don't know, APO is a co-ed, nationwide, service fraternity, but we're more like an organization. APO sponsors projects on the WPI campus (like the Servant Auction and The Service to Students Award) and around the Worcester area. Sound interesting - come to a meeting and try it out. The omicron Iota chapter of APO meets every Monday at 6:30 in SL 104.

Anyway, for all the brothers out there don't forget these upcoming spring events:

RUSH

Questions? Ask Keith (Box 932)

CONCLAVE

Want to help? See Bill

That's all for now, See Ya Later, ME

BILAGA

Hello again everyone!

Welcome back from Winter Break. We have a lot to do this upcoming year. (Constitution Revisions, budget, helping out the unofficial friends of BILAGA, etc.)

The MIT dance Friday night was a great success. Lots of people showed up. If anyone knows of any more events happening in the near future, let me know and I will get the info out to the rest of the club.

The meeting is tentatively scheduled for this Thursday. Get it touch to find out when and where.

Kelli

Anyone with questions concerning BILAGA can contact: Shane McBride, Box 828; Janet Richardson, Dean of Students Office; or send mail to BILAGA in the Student Activities Office. All inquiries are confidential.

Christian Bible Fellowship

Yo Dudes! We've got a ski trip and a speaker on creationism and evolution planned for the C term and some other groovy stuff. If you have any questions drop a note to our Student Activities Office box, or call 792-

9483.

Have you ever asked yourself, "Why am I here?" I mean really wonder "Is this all there is?" What's life all about anyway? Believe it or not, you're not alone. At one time or another, almost everyone asks this same question. Do you have an answer? Are you satisfied with it?

Ask yourself this question. "Am I satisfied with the way things are?" Are you satisfied getting up in the morning (or afternoon as the case may be), eating breakfast, going to class, watching a little TV, parties on the weekends and Tuesday nights, and going to sleep?

"Hey, don't knock it," someone is saying. "It's a living." Or, as George Burns said, "I get up in the morning and read the obituary column. If I'm not in there, then I shave."

Coming up we'll look at how life can be lifted from the mundane and infused with purpose by knowing the God of the universe personally! We'll look at the person of Jesus Christ and learn how Jesus can change your life.

"I have come that they may have life and have it to the full."

- Jesus Christ (John 10:10)

Society of Women Engineers

SWE's first meeting of the term is today, Tuesday, January 22 at 7:00pm in Kinnicutt Hall.

During this meeting, Professor Ljungquist will conduct a presentation on oral speaking. Refreshments will be served!

A BRIEF business meeting will follow. Topics to be discussed include: the high school essay contest, Worcester Girls Club Coloring Book contest, and upcoming company tours. See you tonight!

SWE is always looking for new, excited members. Anyone interested in finding out what SWE is all about is encouraged to join our meeting tonight! Applications are still being accepted.

Women's Crew Team

Are you tired of playing your high school sport? Want to try something new and exciting? Want to work out your entire body? Want to get rid of that holiday fat? WPI Women's Crew is for you! No experience or previous training required! If you've rowed before, come back and revitalize the team. If you've got a commanding voice and want to be in charge of 8 sweaty women - we could use you as a coxswain (can be either male or female).

We practice every night in Alumni Gym - 3rd floor between 5 and 5:30 pm. If you want more information or just want to talk to someone about crew, contact Sue at 792-0420 or write to the crew box 5467.

GREEK CORNER

Alpha Chi Rho

Greetings from the Crow house! I hope everyone has settled back into the house after break, and is really into classes. God knows those seniors are. I must apologize, because this week's column was supposed to bring you the highly journalistic prose of Jonas Dedinas, who I'm sure would have provided us with an excellent article, but chickened out instead. Maybe we're all better off this way.

Congratulations to those pledges for catching Bonger off guard, and pulling a raid while the rest of us were watching CNN. It is a poor example of a Sergeant at Arms (It was MTB's fault) who could let such a piddling group of maggots (It was MTB's fault) accomplish such a worthy conquest (It was MTB's fault). Good job anyway, guys, and keep up to date on all your stuff (Cuz MTB sure can't stop you!!)

Congratulations are also in order to Bullied, who could only prevent becoming a Bonehead by starting a war. And then there's Fruit St., for keeping his remote control. What do they really need it for if they only watch Sports Channel all the time? Anyway, thank 45 Fruit St for the party. And thank the pledges for supporting the event last Friday night - are there any living members who went around and around?

Remember, elections are tomorrow, so get all your work done today. Good job to all those people who got A's on projects last term, and remember Project Panic Day is not that far away. I guess I should wish Kathy happy belated birthday. As Bernie Shaw said, "I hope to talk to you later."

Alpha Gamma Delta

Well, here's a belated welcome back! Hope everyone enjoyed their break and are back in the swing of things. As we all know, our pledges didn't waste any time in picking up right where they left off! Because there were so many birthdays over break I'm just going to give you all a general HAPPY BIRTHDAY!! Of course, Maureen gets a special Congratulations for being the newest member of the 21 club, even though she did leave me to be the lone representative of the junior class last Thursday nite. Jodi, how many more days, hours, and minutes? All I can say is "Wow" Karen! That's got to be some kind of record!

In reference to the Pledge Column... Do I detect an attitude developing amongst you guys? I don't mind you showing pride in pledging Alpha Gam but don't think you're gonna tell us to watch out. As a junior class representative, I'm telling you that we'll put you right back in line so you watch out!!

Congratulations to Marci for being named RHD of Daniels. Yeah! We're proud of you babe! Also congrats to Sarah on winning that scholarship - Good Job! By the way, how did you get up for that 6am practice Friday?

Finally, the sisters of Zeta Zeta wish all the soldiers overseas good luck and a safe return. Don't forget to give letters and pictures to Audra every week - they need all the support they can get.

Alpha Gamma Delta Pledges

We're the pledges of Alpha Gam and we can get any man, as sphinter now knows. Bowled,

again. Thank you!! We can't wait to collect on the bet. Congrats to Becca. With her hardest Gig book task completed Dayna's proven how much a pledge class willing to work together can accomplish.

Well, we certainly are a pledge class working together and we're back, as many of the other Greeks on campus realize. Raids, Raids, Raids. Break has not dulled our momentum. So watch out WPI! We, Alpha Gamma Delta pledges, are out to reek some havoc. Sisters of AGD don't think this excludes you!

The pledges who have recently been privy to some of KAP's superior entertainment would like to thank John for a great show. Hope you enjoyed the gift. Unfortunately it can not be exchanged if it doesn't fit. — Y.T., J.W., H.B. & K.F. Oh, by the way sorry to KAP about the error. Hey, we're engineers, who ever said we could spell?

On a personal note: "Special hi to Karen C. from your kid." and "Hope you feel better mom." - HbN. Of course my own mom must get a hello for being great. Glad you weren't hurt, and keep those goggles on.

Lastly, a few pledge goals:

Finish our Gig books, get closely bonded, achieve greater unity, know one another personally, become a family, raid every fraternity on campus, no longer have pledges known as "the four _____ Swimmers" by improving strokework, pass all our classes, get all A's, improve GPA's, know all the sisters well, be there whenever a fellow AGD needs us, and of course become sisters of Alpha Gamma Delta.

Delta Phi Epsilon

Welcome back to all of the Delta Phi Epsilon sisters here at the Phi Omicron chapter. It is so nice to see everyone back. I hope that everyone had an enjoyable and relaxing break. It was great to see such a good turn out at the movie night the other night. The junior class sure did a great job to show the psych and spirit that D-Phi-E has. We also had fun at the Pledge Game night, how about that WAKE UP BREAKFAST. The sisters really did a good job, and yet it was even original.

Our pledges are awesome. You all are doing an awesome job at interviews and getting things done. Good Luck, but remember We are always laughing singing doing whatever and that sisters are lurking everywhere. Pledges do not forget about those dimes. Sisters will be asking for them. We also remember the fellow Americans that are fighting for our country in the Persian Gulf. Do not forget to give Nancy a call as she anxiously waits for a response about Greg. We are all here for you, Nancy.

We would also like to thank Erin, our field consultant, for all of the great workshops, one on ones, and the great ideas. Hopefully we will use all of the ideas to make an awesome informal RUSH and increase our numbers. We would like to wish DELPHINE a VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY. Well got to go and do some work. JSL.

Phi Sigma Sigma

Good morning, Phi Sigma Sigma! Before the games begin, let's all remember to keep in our thoughts our sisters in Saudi Arabia, and

hope for the best of them.

On a lighter note, thanks to Beth Anne for a great job organizing the housewarming, and thanks to all who attended. Don't forget about the Housing Corp/Chapter Budget meeting Sunday night. Get psyched for the meeting Wednesday, and don't forget your dollar for the 50/50 raffle, as well as two bucks for Maryellen. Praise be! Wael is cured, and now our funds will help support another unfortunate child!

Be sure to fill out your survey form for the Committee of Concerned Students. Your input is essential! Don't let them down! A humongous Welcome Back to Michele Marcoux, who has been away on co-op for what seemed like forever. And a special message to Jen Sowden that we are thinking of you and wishing you well.

I have a message from a higher source. Pledges, BEWARE! Some of you have been a little lax about forgetting pins (and I'm not naming any names, Evelyn) so we have decided to launch a full-blown pin-checking attack! Also, get to know your sisters better and get those interviews done!

In a slightly reflective mood, I'm noticing our seniors have only one more term left after this one! We're really going to miss you guys, you're a heck of a bunch of rowdy gals, I must say! By the way, is there going to be an event at 22 Lancaster or what?

In the personals this week, we have an open invitation from Andrea, who is offering to have her mother make slippers for anyone who admired the racy homemade ones she was sporting! A thank you (size XL) to Stacey for taking on that formidable favor I asked of her! Two questions - one for Donna and one for Maryellen: How's your love life and how's your nematodes' love life? Oh yeah, will the real scooping queen please stand up? The contestants are Kristi H., Senya, and Gayle. (That can't be right!), Special hellos to Dara, Beth R. and Lisa P. And now, the moment we've all been waiting for! Here's part one of the famous revolving poem. "It's hard for me to even begin to explain to you what sisterhood has come to mean to me." LIP.

Sigma Pi

Elections were last week and the results are in:

President - Dave Wurts
V. Pres. - Doug Campbell
Treasurer - Jason Poirier
Secretary - Chris Supple
1st Councilor - Hank Eppich
Herald - Eric Heglund

Congratulations and good luck in the coming year. I'm also glad to report that Sigma Pi, along with five others, voted to shoot down the BYOB plan at the most recent IFC meeting. That means Beach Party 91 is still on!!

Also last week, the pledges demonstrated just how lame they really are. We hope they shape up, and that maybe by the end of D term we can initiate them!

Swim trials are on Feb. 12, so lets build up some momentum for that. If we take the meet we'll be back in the running for The Cup (hopefully). In basketball: we're still destroy-

ing all who attempt to stand in our way!

Well, I can't think of anything else worth mentioning, except that I think it's time Jim Payne seeks professional help - it's just uncool to wear womens' pink dresses.

Tau Kappa Epsilon

Greetings! Everything is going well for the brothers of TKE-ZM. It was good to see Fraters Trevisani (X&JP), Haley, and Homan this week. It was also great to see Frater Tom Poole, the sixth back to Alumni Kevin Bernacki. Congratulations again to all the new officers and to the previous officers, thank you - you did a superb job during a tough year. To the New Members, keep cranking.

I know this hasn't been a very usual week, but hey, who said that nobody ever watches TV anymore? Don't ever bring that topic up again! Lush, for one, would stand in significant opposition to such a statement (not to mention Spanky, right, HAND?). Jeff W. did a good job of destroying the ice-skating rink out there-whoever likes doing doughnuts better go elsewhere. Besides, that would be "spoiled." What was that big red spot on Dr. Socrates? It's a little late for Rudolph, the Red-Cheeked Rein Deer. And of course, how could anybody forget the SWAMP? Great party, guys. Don't tell anybody, but Russ wants a BIG sponge for his next birthday.

TKE - The Time is NOW

Zeta Psi

Really don't mind if you sit this one out. My words but a whisper - your deafness a SHOUT.

I may make you feel but I can't make you think.

Rinse off your dishes 'fore they're tossed in the sink.

Ahem...well anyways yet another week goes by on the Zete plantation, and things are still pretty tame. In fact, it doesn't seem like anything has happened around here in at least... TWO WEEKS... Oh, I'd like to thank Newspeak for taking me so literally and also their fine job of arbitrary indentation...thanks guys. Well, let's see, the action has finally started in the Middle East. It better end soon or we'll have to use the Par-mentor on Saddam! Pete, thanks for the creative debt financing, I think I understand it now but I'll hire a team of consultants to make sure. Hey, if we pre-empt the war for a house meeting, and interrupt the meeting for the Anthrax/Iron Maiden concert, does that mean we can put the war on hold until after the final encore? "Yeah, Saddam? Can ya hold those missiles until AFTER the drum solo? Thanks..." DeVries, calm down! It's only a store! All hail Murf, Super Cook and Lord of Cheesecake. We will begin our preemptive strike on dinner next Thursday at 4:30, be there. Peanuts, Mr. Bond? We'd like to congratulate the pledges on a NEARLY successful raid, and thank Liam's roommates for letting us spoil it! Hey Skin, did you make the soundtrack for that Dark Bros. film? "The Cheese" thinks so. Well, that's about all I can think of to write, so I'll just end it here. Doodle doodle dee, wubba wubba wubba.

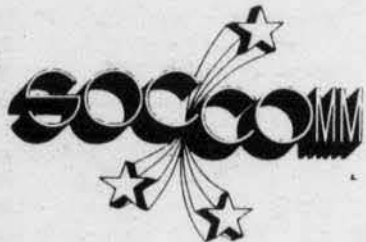
January 26th
7:00 pm
Alden Hall

featuring
ADAM'S EVE
DEATH DEFEYEING
GRAVITY
MYSCHIEF
THE SOCIETY OF
BEVERAGES
THIN RED LINE

with
CHARLIE HALL

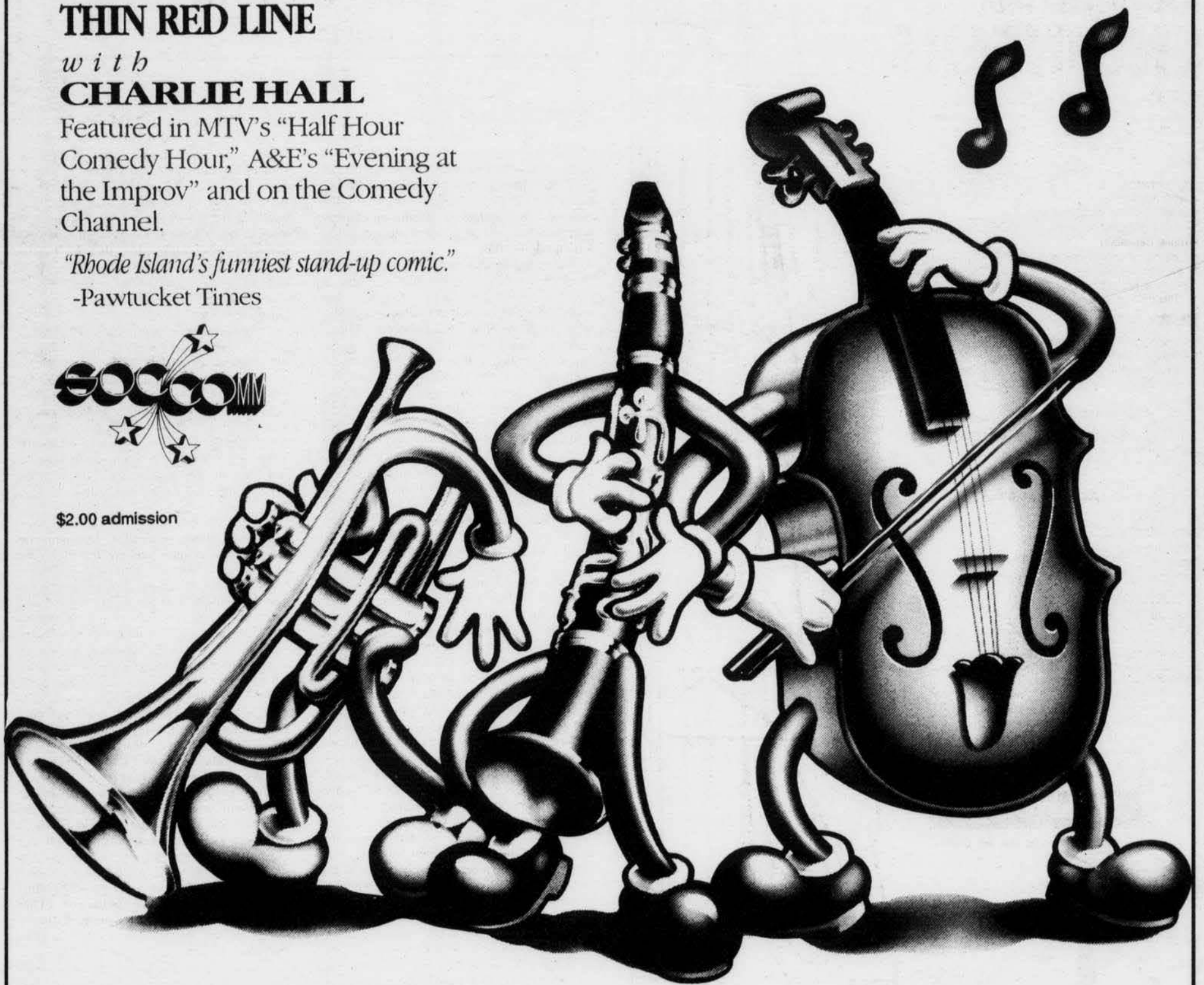
Featured in MTV's "Half Hour
Comedy Hour," A&E's "Evening at
the Improv" and on the Comedy
Channel.

"Rhode Island's funniest stand-up comic."
-Pawtucket Times



\$2.00 admission

WPI
Battle of
the Bands
1991



CLASSIFIEDS

SPRING BREAK '91 - Can't afford Spring Break? Think again! Panama City Beach, Florida from \$119, Montego Bay/ Negril, Jamaica from \$459, Cancun/ Acapulco, Mexico from \$429. Earn free travel and \$\$\$ marketing STS vacations on your campus! For more information and reservations call STS at 1-800-648-4849.

Don't forget to set your alarm.

Valentine's Day is coming...What are you buying your sweetie???

...Trust...Believe...Obey...

Summer Internships (Employment) available in FRANCE!!! Contact Professor Sisson, Room WB307T for details. Une connaissance du francais est exige.

Molly, Arnall, Fleming, Dolan and Stevie - Great job! The Johns.

Wake up in time for class today?

Apartments from now to May or longer. 2, 3, 4 bedrooms, appliances, offstreet parking. \$400 up. Call Edie at 799-2728.

STUDY ABROAD IN AUSTRALIA - Information on semester, summer, J-term, Graduate, and Internship programs. All programs run under \$6000. Call Curtin University at 1-800-878-3696.

Don't forClub Berkshire apologizes to those who were forced to bear witness to the brutal dismemberment of a rowdy patron by Berkshire Security. Fortunate for the rowdy patron, Berkshire Security is properly trained in emergency medicine, which allowed the hospital to save one arm.

Our highest commendations to the Berkshire Security. Once again, we reiterate the importance of the dress code. Club Berkshire.

Roadtrips in freezing rain are fun.

Don't forget February 14th...Make it a day to remember!

I used to be a deceiver, told myself my own lies, now I see right through them. I've been deceived too many times...and now I see it was all a part of your Plan.

Newspeak will run classifieds free for all WPI students, faculty, and staff. Free classifieds are limited to six (6) lines. Ads of a commercial nature and ads longer than six lines must be paid for at the off campus/commercial rate of \$5.00 for the first six lines and 50 cents per additional line. Classified ads must be paid for in advance. No information which, in the opinion of the Newspeak editors, would identify an individual to the community will be printed in a personal ad. The editors reserve the right to refuse any ad deemed to be in bad taste or many ads from one group or individual on one subject. The deadline for ads is the Friday before publication. All classified ads must be on individual sheets of paper and must be accompanied by the writer's name, address and phone.

Name _____ Phone _____
Address _____ Total Enclosed \$ _____

Allow only 30 characters per line

What Evil Plan put me in this situation?

This is not a world of my creation
I have no luck with negotiation
Sadistic thoughts give strong temptation...

Are you undecided about your major?
Thinking about changing your major?
Wondering what you'll do after graduation? Come talk to alumni at "WHAT TO BE OR NOT TO BE," Tuesday, January 29, 1991 7:00-9:30pm in the lower wedge.

SCHLUMBERGER FIELD ENGINEERS

DON'T:

- wear suits and ties
- answer phones all day
- shuffle papers
- sit at a desk

DO:

- take charge
- work long hours
- assume heavy responsibility
- work outdoors
- make decisions
- face many challenges and risks
- perform data acquisitions and measurements of physical properties of subsurface formations
- interpret that information

ENJOY:

- working with a great deal of autonomy
- acting on an idea and risk carrying it to fruition
- taking pride in a job well done

**MECHANICAL ENGINEERING
ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING**
(and other engineering disciplines)

**GEOSCIENCES
APPLIED SCIENCES**

INFORMATION MEETING:

Date: January 30, 1991
Time: 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Place: Higgins Labs, Room 209

INTERVIEWING:

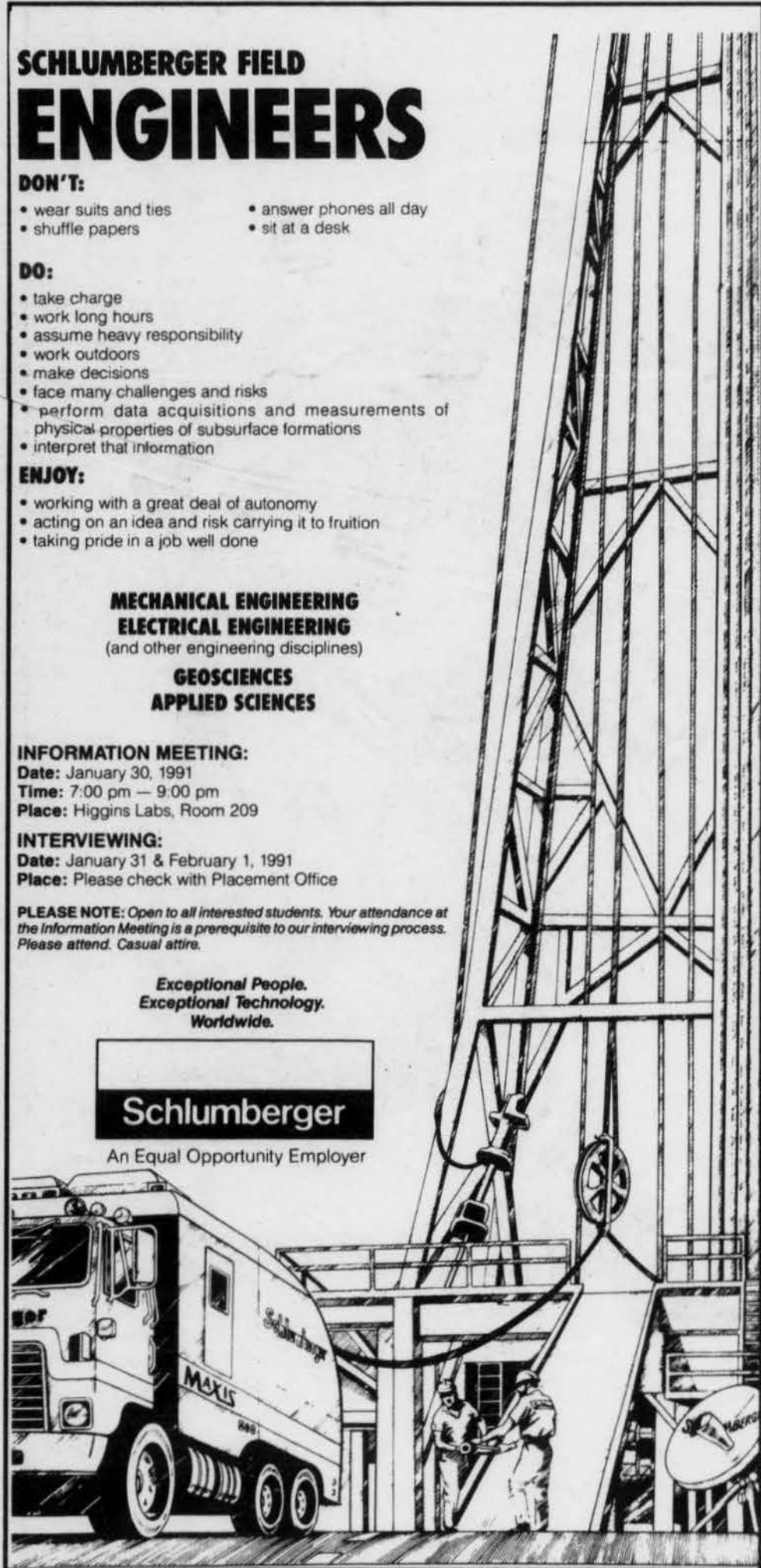
Date: January 31 & February 1, 1991
Place: Please check with Placement Office

PLEASE NOTE: Open to all interested students. Your attendance at the Information Meeting is a prerequisite to our interviewing process. Please attend. Casual attire.

Exceptional People.
Exceptional Technology.
Worldwide.

Schlumberger

An Equal Opportunity Employer



Board Walk Indian Trains

by Ajay Khanna
Newspeak Staff

Hi! This is an international culture column that I decided to start writing this year. Hopefully, with the help of other foreign students at WPI, I can describe specific interesting aspects of the rest of the world each week. A walk across the globe has always excited me. In this column, I will take the opportunity to describe a train ride in India.

The train journey is only comfortable when the train is standing still, so if you have a history of motion sickness, it is in your interest to avoid this adventure. For this particular ride, which I took last year, I had booked my tickets only two weeks in advance. Luckily, I got a seat. After saying the necessary goodbyes, even though I was thankful to escape my family for a while, I embarked on my journey. It is usually best to carry something to read along with you if you don't speak Hindi, because there's a good chance very few will speak fluent English. Most people do speak broken or pidgin English (in which a piano is described as an animal; you hit him in the teeth, he cry), however, so you should be able to get along. Seats are all numbered, and you usually don't have a chance to choose your seat, so finding a pretty girl was out of the question for me. My neighbour was an architect who was trying to sell his house in Delhi. He hardly opened his mouth throughout the trip, and I suspect he was one of those who would only prove his stupidity by doing so.

After finding that this complete bore was going to accompany me, I decided to do the best thing available to me at the time - go to sleep. This train, the *Rajdhani Express*, is an overnight train. You get in at 5pm in Bombay, and get out at 9am in Delhi. That's pretty neat because you don't lose too much time. Unfortunately, the train shakes so much that many people find it hard just to stay on their seats, leave alone sleep. Also, it's usually pretty hot in the train, even if it is air-conditioned, because the weather is hot and humid.

It is important to make sure that you are safe at all times on an Indian train and that your luggage is always near you, for it might be stolen. The doors do not close while the train is in motion, so you can fall out. Also, the train might start up suddenly, leaving you behind at the station. People often hang out of the train while it is in motion, and sometimes go so far as to climb on to the top, ducking whenever they see a tunnel. The train scene in the movie *Gandhi* is realistic.

Playing cards and eating snacks are probably the most popular pastimes on trains in India besides reading (for those who can - much of India's population is illiterate). People usually play cards for money, and those you meet on the train are often not only good players, but

also expert cheats, so it is desirable to avoid bets when playing with a stranger. Eating is also quite popular, and a large variety of snacks are available at reasonable prices. People walk through the train at odd intervals selling their wares, which range from tea and soft drinks to fruit to hot samosas. At train stops, there is often a larger variety, and many people get off the train to bargain for the best prices and quality, but it is advisable to stay on unless you want to risk getting left behind. It is best to avoid the spicy snacks, since they don't make a favorable impression on the American palate. Incidentally, Murphy's Law applies here, too - the best snacks pass by while you are asleep.

On this particular train, meals are served as part of the deal, and I woke up to the sound of my neighbor gobbling his dinner. I had to spend some time convincing the attendant that I was asleep, and had missed my dinner, before he would believe me. Anyway, I did get served some food eventually, which tasted a little better than daka. It was probably cooked just as carelessly, but tasted better simply because it was Indian. This was when I decided to look at the scenery, but it was already dark. Just my luck.

Since I've seen the scenery before, however, I will attempt to recall it. Depending on where in the country you are travelling, the scenery can be very different. The only similarities are that there is always lots of vegetation around, and that the breeze is fresh and exhilarating. In contrast, the train is usually extremely dirty. I don't think they have bothered to clean it since the beginning of time. In some parts of India, you can see the rice fields stretch for miles on end. In Maharashtra, which is in West India, you might see salt fields near the sea, where the salt collects in high tide, and is drained during low tide. In Bengal, which is in East India, near Bangladesh, you would probably see empty fields, with signs of a strike posted near the front gate.

To make the most of the journey, it is best to spend some time observing the landscape and the towns and villages that the train passes en route, especially during the day. As a child, I always loved throwing my mom's favorite stuff out the window to the poor children playing in the villages that we passed. Unfortunately, she always seemed to have one of her fits right after that, so I got over the habit.

When you arrive at your destination, a dozen or so coolies, or porters, will compete to help you take your luggage to your car or a taxi. It is quite an experience to see a dozen people offer to help you, even if you do have to pay for their services. It is best to be wary in dealing with them, however, so that they do not cheat you. With this, I wish you the best of luck on your journey to and in India, if you ever take one. Oh yeah, my train was only 35 minutes late.

POLICE LOG

Monday, December 3, 1990

4:14am - ASSIST STATE POLICE: Officer standing by for tow truck at intersection of Salisbury and Park Ave. Operator arrested by state police.
 4:43pm - ASSIST FIRE DEPT: Officers assisting in traffic control in area of 10 Dean Street, working fire at address.

Friday, December 7, 1990

6:22am - NOISE COMPLAINT: Neighbor calls reporting loud yelling in area of Theta Chi fraternity house. Officer investigates, House advised.

Saturday, December 8, 1990

1:38am - MEDICAL EMERGENCY: Officer requesting ambulance for student who has fallen behind Stratton Hall. Student transported to hospital, possible broken arm.
 2:39am - NOISE COMPLAINT: Report of loud party in Fuller apartments. Officers investigate, party located and advised to quiet down.
 11:21pm - MEDICAL EMERGENCY: TKE Fraternity House at 65 Wachusett St. requesting Ambulance. Officer reports male is intoxicated and has fallen down, sustained scalp injury. Injured party refuses transport to hospital.

Sunday, December 9, 1990

5:07am - ALCOHOL VIOLATION: Officer reports speaking with minor leaving fraternity house in possession of alcohol. Alcohol dumped.

Monday, December 10, 1990

12:05am - MISSING PERSON: Parents of missing student requesting report be filed with Worcester Police. Worcester police notified.
 4:20pm - SUSPICIOUS PERSON: Coach calls from Gym reporting young girl being chased down Park Ave by unknown male. Officers respond, WPD notified girl transported home.
 9:22pm - MEDICAL EMERGENCY: Student has fallen on football field, possible head injury. Officers respond, ambulance notified, student transported to hospital.

Tuesday, December 11, 1990

1:23am - SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY: Officers speaking to group of fraternity pledges behind Higgins House. Group involved in pledging activity.
 4:26am - THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLE: Vehicle in Goddard Parking lot broken into, attempted theft, Officer responds and report filed.

Wednesday, December 12, 1990

1:25am - ASSAULT AND BATTERY: President of Phi Sig requesting officer in regards to past assault. Officer responds, report filed.
 7:27pm - SUSPICIOUS PERSON: Student reports suspicious male behind tree in the rear of Olin Hall. Officers check area, no one located.

Friday, December 14, 1990

2:42pm - ASSIST WORCESTER POLICE: Officers assisting with traffic control on Park Ave. Multiple traffic accidents with injuries.

Healers With Aids: Preventing Further Damage

by Thomas A. Pane
 Newspeak Staff

The panic concerning AIDS has twisted and turned ever since the disease came on the world medical scene. There were the phases of fear, uncertainty, criticism of homosexuals, and the condemnation of IV drug users. Following this, we had the controversy concerning the distribution of clean needles and condoms. "Safe Sex" became the new theme of high school health classes nationwide, and advertisements everywhere urged cautious behavior in order to reduce personal risk to this perplexing, fatal disease.

Now the AIDS problem takes a new, more insidious turn; the new issue is, "what happens when a health care worker becomes infected?" When AIDS gets "behind our lines" by infecting the doctors and nurses who are combating it, there is a line of fear drawn between patient and caregiver. In a move to detect infected health care professionals, the Centers for Disease Control are considering passing regulations requiring medical staff to be tested for AIDS. Those testing positive will be prevented from performing invasive procedures.

I can understand the CDC's concern, because accidents occur very frequently in surgery. Small pokes and cuts with needles and scalpels are relatively commonplace. (Note: most of the time, these cuts only penetrate the workers' glove; actual bloodletting is less common, but it does happen.)

The problem is what to do when a doctor or nurse tests HIV positive. How this situation is handled will determine whether this aspect of the AIDS problem causes battles or is smoothly integrated into the overall health care system. In every case of a positive HIV test, absolute confidentiality should exist. No one but the testing group and the victim should be

aware of the positive result. With O.R. nurses, the case is less complex, because the nurse can be reassigned to another service with no change in pay. Doctors, on the other hand, must be approached more carefully. In light of the long years it takes to be trained as a surgeon, the only other options, other than quitting medicine, would be for the infected doctor to accept a position in pathology, research, or teaching. No doctor with a terminal disease is going to switch specialties.

The reason why this confidentiality is needed is because doctors don't separate who they are from what they do. Any abrupt assault on a physician's career is essentially as devastating as a personal attack. The vast majority of lay persons would preferably not choose to be under the care of a doctor with AIDS, no matter how small the risk. This would lead to the physician's private practice emptying itself of patients, causing unneeded problems for the doctor, problems which could be avoided with some foresight and care.

One complication with the HIV test is that it can take months for a positive result to appear after the initial infection. Doctors can't be forced to wait for test results each time they receive an injury during surgery; such lunacy would stall every surgical staff in the country. The solution is annual or semiannual tests. In time, these tests would be as routine as CPR recertifications.

Doctors take a risk every time they step into the operating room with a patient, most especially trauma patients, because they require instant surgery. In these cases, no HIV tests are ordered on the patient. The team is called, they scrub, and they get to work. This has been going on before AIDS was discovered. I think that confidentiality and delicate treatment of infected doctor's careers is a minimal courtesy for their hard work and sacrifice which they perform daily, for complete strangers.

Saturday, December 15, 1990

12:08am - NOISE COMPLAINT: Neighbor calls to report loud music at Sigma Phi fraternity. Officer responds, music turned down.
 12:31am - MALICIOUS MISCHIEF: Officer observes male walking on cars in front of Sigma Phi fraternity house. Report filed.

Sunday, December 16, 1990

10:05pm - ASSIST WORCESTER POLICE: Intoxicated male in front of Sig Ep fraternity house, record check reveals warrant, subject arrested.

Friday, December 21, 1990

2:47pm - BREAK INTO RESIDENCE: Student reports his apartment has been entered, rear door kicked in. Officer responds, report filed.

Wednesday, December 26, 1990

11:28pm - BREAK IN AT FRATERNITY: Member of Zeta Psi calls to report break into house. Officer responds, Worcester Police notified.

Thursday, January 3, 1991

11:07am - BREAK INTO BUILDING: Staff member of Kaven Hall reports theft in computer lab. Officer responds, investigation pending.

Wednesday, January 9, 1991

5:10pm - BREAK INTO BUILDING: Lab monitor calls from Atwater Kent reporting theft from lab. Officer responds, report filed.

Thursday, January 10, 1991

12:00am - MEDICAL EMERGENCY: Student from Stoddard reporting laceration to hand. Officer reports student with severe cut transported by ambulance.

SAFETY TIP: Campus police would like to remind students of the hazards of sliding in the snow and on the service roads. Many injuries have occurred due to sliding in the past few weeks.

What's Happening?

Tuesday, January 22

4:15 and 4:45pm - Buses leave for Wachusett Mountain Ski Area for Ski Club Outing; will return at 9:45pm and 10:15pm. Anyone welcome, weather permitting.
 7:30pm - Cinematech, "Mo Better Blues," Perreault Hall, Free.

Wednesday, January 23

8:00pm - Video, "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest," Gompei's Place, Free.

Thursday, January 24

11:00am - AI Research Group Meeting, FL320

Friday, January 25

11:00am - Computer Science Colloquium, FL320.
 8:00pm - Mike Healy and the "Starmakers," Gompei's Place, \$1.

Saturday, January 26

7:00pm - "Battle of the Bands," Alden Hall, \$2.

Sunday, January 27

11:30am - Mass, Alden Hall
 6:30 and 9:30pm - Film, "Arachnophobia," Perreault Hall, \$2.

Monday, January 28

7:00 and 9:00pm - Film, "Dr. Strangelove," Hogan Campus Center, Holy Cross, room 519, Free.

GOLDSMITH APARTMENTS

Walk to Worcester Polytechnic Institute
799-6076

3 Bedrooms, Super Modern,
 Self-Cleaning Oven, Dishwasher,
 Auto-Defrost 2-Door Refrigerator,
 Carpet, Air Conditioning, Parking,
 Laundry Room
\$725-\$785

2 Bedrooms,
 Quiet, Stately Building,
 Self-Cleaning Oven, Dishwasher,
 Auto-Defrost 2-Door Refrigerator,
 Carpet, Parking, Laundry Room
\$595-\$625

1 Bedroom, Like New, Air Conditioned, Large 2-Door Auto-Defrost Refrigerator,
 Self-Cleaning Oven, Parking, Laundry Room
\$535